

Jordan prepares to receive 'huge number' of foreigners as Iraq says they may leave if they wish

International naval force gathers in Gulf

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND JUAN CARLOS GUMUCIO IN DUBAI

NEARLY fifty warships from America, Britain, France and the Soviet Union were converging on the Gulf region yesterday as President Bush finalised plans for a multinational blockade to back up United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

The blockade would be implemented if diplomatic efforts to enforce the trade embargo fail and if American emissaries cannot persuade both Turkey and Saudi Arabia to close the pipelines carrying 90 per cent of Iraqi oil exports.

Turkey yesterday banned the loading of Iraqi oil at its Mediterranean jetties and industry sources said the Muajia terminal at the Red Sea end of the Saudi pipeline was full to overflowing, with no tankers waiting to load. Turkey's oil minister, Mehmet Kecesler, said in Ankara: "Shutting the pipeline is in Iraq's hands, but when we stop loading, Iraq will have to shut the pipeline."

The result of American efforts to persuade Saudi Arabia to stand up to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq were uncertain last night. Dick Cheney, the American defence secretary, is believed to have sought Saudi approval for the deployment of American military aircraft at the kingdom's bases. Mr Cheney yesterday moved on to Cairo for talks with President Mubarak.

Arab leaders were meeting while simultaneously trying to get an emergency meeting of the Gulf Co-operation Council in Saudi Arabia under way to try

to prevent foreign intervention in the region. But prospects of the council taking any action remained remote. "There is no consensus and we are running out of time," one representative said. "We are in disarray." The lack of resolve reflects the fear among the six members of the council, who include Kuwait, that strong action against Baghdad might prove dangerous.

Other nations were quick to announce that they would comply with the mandatory sanctions against Iraq and Kuwait imposed by the UN Security Council on Monday.

British diplomats had great difficulty in obtaining information about the Britons who were among those moved at the weekend. They confirmed that 58 Britons had been transferred and were being held in hotels. Whitehall sources said that 34 were from the British Airways aircraft that was on the ground at Kuwait when Iraq invaded. International companies were also moving staff out of Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, which are both vulnerable to Iraqi attack.

The United States told its Nato allies yesterday that Iraq was still massing troops along the Saudi border although it did not indicate whether there was any likelihood of an attack. America has pledged to defend Saudi Arabia if President Saddam attacks.

America has more than forty naval and marine ships, including three aircraft carriers, and about 150 warplanes in or on their way to the Middle East. Britain and France have three each and a Soviet guided-missile destroyer and two supply ships have been seen entering the Strait of Hormuz heading for the Gulf. Fourteen American F-111B fighter-bombers, usually based in Upper Heyford, are on "routine" training deployment in Turkey and there were unconfirmed reports that the 15,000-strong 24th Infantry Division and paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division had been placed on alert. Martin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, yesterday emphasised that talk of a naval blockade was still premature and that the first step was seek the enforcement of the UN trade embargo through diplomatic means.

In Jordan, officials were preparing to receive a "huge number of people" leaving Iraq and Kuwait overland. Thousands of foreigners were stranded in Kuwait after the invasion and Iraq's ambassador to Greece said yesterday that any foreign nationals who wanted to leave were free to do so by land. The Kuwaiti airport remains closed.

Security officials said about two hundred people, mainly Jordanians, had crossed into Jordan yesterday. There were no Westerners among them. A foreign ministry official said Jordan would admit anyone with travel documents and foreigners without documents provided their embassies in Amman vouch for them.

Hundreds of Britons living in Iraq were last night preparing to leave.

Nuclear 'risk'
The use of conventional freight ferries to transport spent nuclear fuel into Britain poses an unacceptable fire risk, a report for Greenpeace said. Such shipments, mostly through Dover, have risen sharply in recent years. British Nuclear Fuels said the report's conclusions were implausible. Page 8

Crop spraying ban in force

In the most extensive ban yet issued, the National Rivers Authority yesterday ordered 600 farmers in the Anglian region to stop drawing water from rivers for spray irrigation. The action was being taken to avert a serious threat to public water supplies later in the year.

An earlier appeal to spray irrigators to curb demand had fallen on deaf ears, the authority said. Page 20

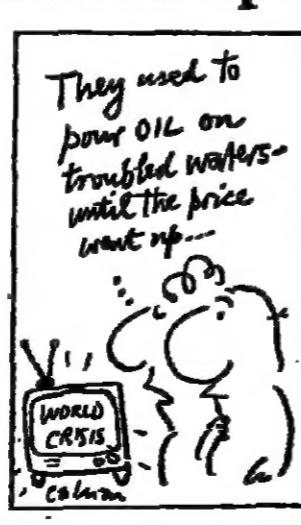
Petrol price expected to rise by another 5p

OIL prices reached their highest levels since December 1983 yesterday and motorists must expect more price increases at the pumps.

A gallon of four-star already costs a record £2.14 and oil industry analysts predict that further increases are already in the pipeline, with another 5p likely later this week.

BP, Britain's third-largest petrol retailer, yesterday followed Esso, the market leader, by increasing its price for four-star petrol by 10.5p to 214.6p.

Record price, page 5
Shares fare better, page 21



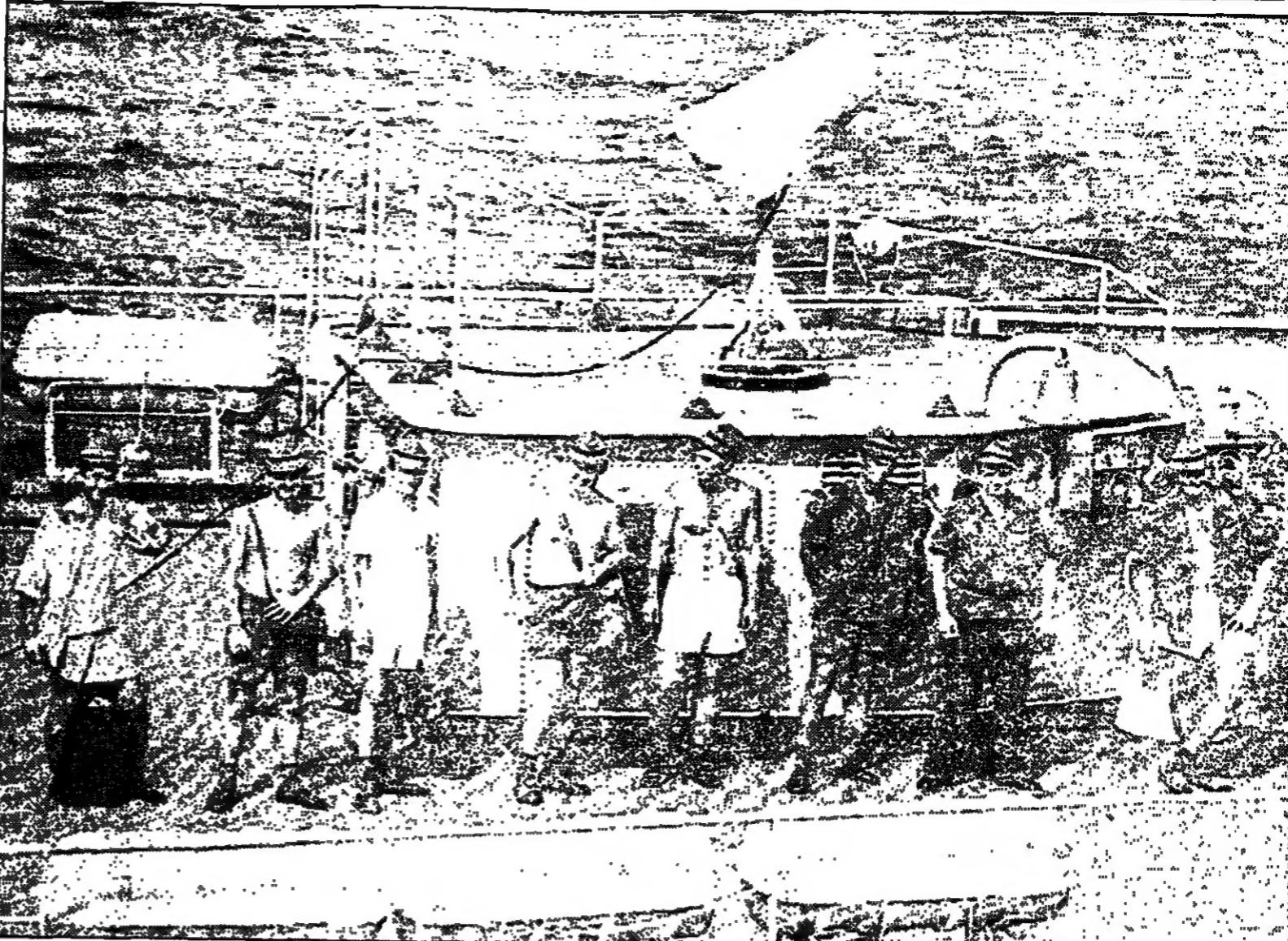
industry's future to have an approved scheme for producing officially recognised quality wines. If not, a proportion of the production would have to be distilled into industrial alcohol as part of an EC programme for getting rid of surplus table wine. There would also be a ban on planting new vines.

English wine production was substantially over 21,000 hectolitres last year. A considerable acreage of newly-planted vineyards comes into production each year, and there are now 448 vineyards with a total of 375 acres under vine. It is already plain that the new scheme is likely to run into objections in Brussels, particularly over the use of hybrid vine varieties which are frowned upon on the Continent. The varieties originally officially recommended for planting in England and Wales were the German Müller-Thurgau, the French Auxerrois

and Wrotham Pinot, a local variation of the Pinot Meunier much used in making champagne. The latter two proved to hold little attraction for growers and were scarcely planted.

The recommended list of six varieties now favoured by the English Vineyards Association includes two hybrids. One, Madeleine Angevine, is believed to have table grapes in its ancestry. The other, Seyval Blanc, is favoured for resistance to frost. Most of the red wine varieties the association would want approved for growing in England are also hybrids.

Stephen Skelton, the winemaker at Lamberhurst vineyard in Kent and a member of the committee drafting the scheme, said: "We have a unique climate and we should have a unique system to suit it. We are making wines from hybrids quite successfully, and they should recognise that."



Hot weather rig: Soviet sailors on a naval auxiliary vessel near the Strait of Hormuz waiting to join the international blockade in the Gulf

Jobless who spurn help face benefit cut

By JILL SHERMAN
SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

LONG-TERM unemployed people may lose up to 40 per cent of their benefit if they fail to attend or complete Restart courses, according to draft proposals published by the government yesterday.

Tony Newton, the social security secretary, has asked the independent social security advisory committee to consider draft regulations which would for the first time impose penalties on people claiming income support who have been unemployed for two years or more.

Under the proposed change, independent adjudicators would be able to withdraw up to 40 per cent of the income support personal allowance or £14.70 if the claimant has failed to attend or complete a course and declined other offers of help. If the claimant or family member is pregnant or seriously ill and the family has less than £200 in savings the sanction would drop to 20 per cent.

Until now ministers have emphasised that the Restart scheme, designed to help people with particular difficulties get a job, is voluntary. However, yesterday's move, which makes the course mandatory for a certain group, could pave the way for wider sanctions for the unemployed.

Under the new proposals, benefit penalties would only be imposed for the duration of the course which could last between one and five weeks.

The courses reassess people's strengths and skills, look at the jobs and opportunities available and make a considered choice about what to do next. They are not expected to place people directly into jobs and many participants go on to attend Jobclubs and employment training, says a guidance note from the social security department.

Last year 42,000 people attended a Restart course and more than 90 per cent of those completing the course made a commitment towards getting a job or taking up training.

Four UK hostages held as Liberia war worsens

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

FOUR British men were among 16 hostages being held by a Liberian rebel leader yesterday in what appeared to be an attempt to provoke American intervention in the Liberian civil war.

According to a pool dispatch from foreign journalists in Monrovia, Mr Johnson killed a relief worker on Friday after accusing him of selling rice to Monrovia's starving citizens. He also said he had killed a Liberian senator for spying, and paraded before the reporters a Liberian congressman and said he would be placed before a firing squad for spying for President Doe.

Prince Johnson, the leader of one of two rebel armies trying to wrest power from the besieged President Doe, paraded some of the 16 hostages, including three of the Britons, in front of journalists to show that they were alive and unharmed. He threatened to attack US Marines airlifted into the Liberian capital to evacuate foreign nationals if the United States or neighbouring West African states did not send in troops to bring the conflict to an end. Mr Johnson, a former junior officer in the Liberian army, was

involved in an abortive coup in 1985. He later joined the rebel army of Charles Taylor but left it in February.

In Banjul, the Gambian capital, West African leaders announced that a five-nation military force would be sent in to end the conflict, but Whitehall sources expressed concern that an inadequately trained military force might exacerbate the conflict.

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involved in an abortive coup in 1985. He later joined the rebel army of Charles Taylor but left it in February.

DOCTORS may soon be able to prevent diabetic kidney disease, which affects about 750,000 people in Britain and causes kidney failure in about 600 patients a year, researchers said yesterday.

Diplomatic sources reported an appeal from members of the 10,000 strong Nigerian community in Liberia to West African states to avoid what they called forced military intervention in the Liberian civil war.

The proposed West African task force has been described by the 16-nation Economic Community of West Africa as a ceasefire monitoring group to be led by a Ghanaian commander.

The three British captives presented to journalists identified themselves as Terry Good, aged 67, a mining engineer; Seymour Granit, aged 32, a businessman; and Paul Temple, aged 36, a timber merchant. Mr Temple, a father of two, had been in Liberia for six months. His parents, Edward and Grace Temple, were waiting for news last night at their home in Oliver Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

In addition to the Britons

Big step in diabetes diagnosis

By THOMSON PRENTICE
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

The advances are being regarded as the most significant for many years in the understanding of the disease. The National Kidney Research Fund said yesterday the work was of tremendous importance to diabetics.

Gian Viberti, professor of diabetic medicine, and colleagues at the United Medical Schools of Guy's and St Thomas' hospitals, London, found that 80 per cent of diabetics who develop kidney disease show a tiny rise in albumin, a protein excreted in

Continued on page 20, col 3

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Wine growers scheme against EC sour grapes

By ROBIN YOUNG

ENGLISH wine growers, hoping for their second fine vintage in a row, are aiming to have their wine recognised as a quality product in Continental eyes. A working party has met to draft a scheme akin to the French *appellation contrôlée* and Italian DOC systems, to qualify English wine for quality status by the exacting standards of the European Community.

The EC regards English wine, regardless of its bouquet or flavour, as among the lowest of the low. In the official hierarchy of quality, English wine can never be more than mere table wine, which is the bureaucrats' term for plonk. When production of English wine, some of which actually comes from 13 vineyards in Wales, exceeds 25,000 hectolitres (the equivalent of 3.3 million bottles) it will be essential to the

industry's future to have an approved scheme for producing officially recognised quality wines. If not, a proportion of the production would have to be distilled into industrial alcohol as part of an EC programme for getting rid of surplus table wine. There would also be a ban on planting new vines.

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and Wrotham Pinot, a local variation of the Pinot Meunier much used in making champagne. The latter two proved to hold little attraction for growers and were scarcely planted.

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Degree results

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Long-term success for ban on trading forecast by analysts

By ANDREW MC EWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE international ban on trade with Iraq is likely to succeed in the results may not be seen for some time, analysts said yesterday.

The only comparable previous action by the United Nations Security Council was a failure. Sanctions were imposed against Rhodesia from 1967, but had far less effect than hoped. However, Iraq faces greater obstacles. The embargo against its oil seems less dependent on persuading Saudi Arabia and Turkey to close their pipelines than was at first thought, because most big oil companies are based in countries that will insist the UN resolution is respected.

Baghdad may find some outlets, but not enough to provide the revenue it needs to pay for imports. About 20 per cent of its food, including two million tonnes of wheat a year, is imported.

The trade embargo covers food except in "humanitarian circumstances", meaning that governments would want evidence that malnutrition was beginning before giving authorisation for shipments. It is thought that hunger rather than malnutrition could be sufficient to undermine President Saddam Hussein's popularity. Baghdad will have little difficulty in finding

suppliers, but they are likely to insist on cash payment and on Iraq arranging its transport.

For the next few days or weeks, Iraq could use the port facilities it has seized in Kuwait to bring in supplies. The warships converging on the Gulf from the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France are not expected to attempt a blockade immediately. Western diplomats expect them to wait until they have clear evidence of a large-scale circumvention of the UN resolution.

They would then seek a further Security Council meeting to ask for measures under Article VII of the UN Charter, which permits the use of force. Baghdad probably therefore has a period of grace in which it could stock up. Britain and other governments took steps yesterday to limit this opportunity. Shipments of goods to Iraq were being traced, and orders will be radioed to vessels to turn back.

President Saddam is expected to put strong pressure on King Hussein of Jordan to allow supplies to continue flowing through the Red Sea port of Aqaba, and by road across Jordan to Iraq. This route was vital to the Iraqis in the war with Iran between 1980 and 1988, when they were unable

to use facilities on the Shatt al-Arab waterway. Its port at Umm Qasr was too small and too vulnerable to Iranian attack to be of much use.

Western governments recognise that King Hussein's position will be difficult, but think he will respect the resolution. Even if he refused, or if Iraq sent in troops to secure its supply lines, Aqaba could be blockaded fairly easily. The Gulf could be blockaded at the Strait of Hormuz, but this would not stop small vessels running supplies from ports inside the Gulf. Such trade helped the Iranian middle classes live through the war with Iraq without giving up their comforts.

Some trade could continue flowing through the land border with Turkey, but assuming that Ankara enforces the resolution the amounts would be small. Iraq's tense relations with its other neighbours — Syria, Iran and Saudi Arabia — preclude their borders being used as main supply lines.

The aim will not be to isolate Iraq against all trade, which would be impractical, but to cause enough discomfort to weaken President Saddam's position.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, has made it clear the government is prepared to use British frigates in the Gulf if a blockade proves necessary. But London would not act alone, and is thought unlikely to agree to a blockade involving only a few nations. It would want a further Security Council resolution.

Sir John Moberly, Middle

East consultant to the Royal Institute of International Affairs, said it was equally important that Washington should not act alone. He feared that without approval of the Security Council, any blockade would cause resentment in other Arab countries.

He also urged Western governments to show more interest in solving the Arab-Israeli conflict. Arab nations had contrasted the West's response to the invasion of Kuwait with its low-key pressure on Jerusalem.

Peter Mansfield, the author of *Kuwait — Vanguard of the Gulf*, said that he believed sanctions would be easier to enforce than under previous embargoes.

The only precedent is the embargo imposed against Rhodesia in 1967. As in the case of Rhodesia, however, Iraq has long land borders and a food embargo would be hard to enforce.

Loophole could let food through

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

SENIOR United Nations officials admitted yesterday that there is a potential loophole in the comprehensive trade embargo imposed against Iraq on Monday night which could enable food to reach that country from outside.

They insist, however, that the success or failure of the embargo depends on the West's ability to halt Iraq's oil exports, thus robbing it of all revenue, and that any long-term attempt to subdue Iraq by depriving it of food is of "secondary or even tertiary importance".

Iraq is heavily dependent on imported foodstuffs, mostly from North America and Europe. It imports about 70 per cent of its annual five million tons of wheat, for example, and most of the 850,000 tons of corn used each year for poultry production.

The loophole is that the UN embargo exempts the supply of food to Iraq "in humanitarian circumstances". Asked whether that did not leave substantial room for interpretation by individual countries, one top UN legal adviser replied: "Sure it does."

It was "clearly saying something about exporting food" but there was a huge grey area between continuing normal

British road hauliers face rise in Middle East costs

By MICHAEL HORNELL

BRITISH road hauliers, who were banned last night by the Department of Transport from trying to enter Iraq, will organise costly alternative transit routes to the Middle East through Syria and Jordan from today.

The long-distance hauliers, who dispatched a record 863 lorries through Turkey and Iraq during the first six months of this year, will be forced to pass heavy additional costs to their clients.

The new route to the Gulf will add up to two days to a typical journey to Qatar with a load of oil-drilling equipment. Increased transit taxes from between £350 and £600 to between £600 and £1,000 will add about 6 per cent to the total cost of a journey normally costing an average of £7,000.

The ministry ban coincided with a declaration yesterday that Turkey will respect the United Nations' resolution to impose mandatory economic sanctions on Iraq.

British lorry drivers normally take the E5 motorway through Turkey via Mersin before switching to the E24 for Zakhu on the Iraqi border. The alternative journey through Syria will oblige them to remain on the E5 and cross at Silvagzu. The extra costs will also include fuel, though this is cheap in the Middle East, border charges and agents' fees.

Although the bigger haulage companies expect that the higher charges will not significantly deter their Middle East customers, there were growing fears that the uncertain political future of the region could force off the road the

small or one-man spot-hire businesses which ply between Turkey and the Gulf.

A spokesman for the Road Haulage Association said: "One must support UN sanctions if normality is going to be achieved again. But the damage is going to be a lot of increased costs which may force the smaller man out of business."

Jack Welsh, director of the international department of

the Freight Transport Association, said: "There is bound to be a lot of hesitancy among Saudis on whether this is a good time to be importing goods and there will be a turnaround in trade. Small companies are sensitive to cash flows and if there is any disruption to that they could be in difficulty."

Road haulage companies said they were apprehensive about the immediate future.

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

SIR Crispin Charles Cervantes Tickell was meant to spend this week looking for dinosaur eggs in the Badlands of Montana, his final American holiday before retiring as Britain's permanent representative at the United Nations.

But he was called to an emergency session of the Security Council in the small hours of Thursday morning and instead spent the following days in a series of meetings with his diplomatic colleagues formulating the United Nations' response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

As a dedicated environmentalist and amateur paleontologist, Sir Crispin regret having had to cancel his horseback trek in search of eggshell fragments from the duck-billed dinosaur.

But his final days at the United Nations bring to a fitting conclusion a long diplomatic career which, in the past three years at the United Nations, has seen the world organisation revitalised.

On Monday, the Security Council voted for only the second time in its history to impose comprehensive

sanctions on a state, placing a total economic and military embargo on Iraq.

Although all 15 council members spoke, only Sir Crispin set the vote in its proper historical context, alongside the sanctions against Rhodesia, the arms embargo against South Africa and the League of Nations' abortive attempt to ban trade with Mussolini's Italy after its invasion of Abyssinia.

The Security Council had "faced its responsibilities", he said, and must now "succeed where the League of Nations failed and the Security Council itself has faltered in the past".

Sir Crispin, who takes the middle name Cervantes from a family legend that the Spanish poet was an ancestor, is a diplomat in the old style. He was educated at Westminster and Christ Church, Oxford, and did his national service in the Coldstream Guards.

Like the best of Britain's "well-educated amateurs", his interests range from painting to science — and, in particular, that most British preoccupation, the weather.

He took up climatology during a sabbatical at Harvard in the mid-

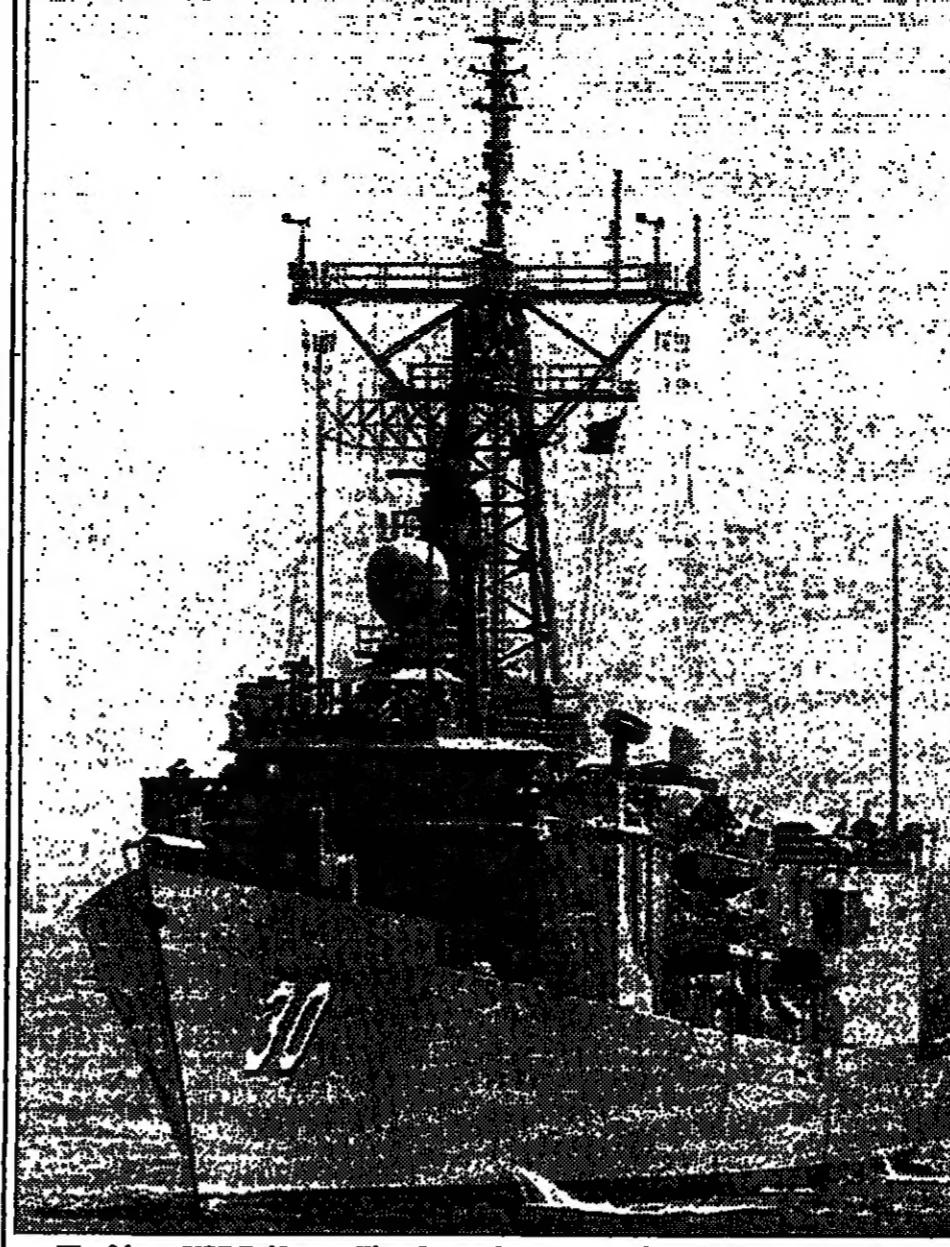
Seventies, and lectured on the subject during a spell at All Souls. His book, *Climatic Change and World Affairs*, is soon to be reissued in its third edition by Harvard University Press.

After diplomatic postings in The Netherlands, Mexico, and France, Sir Crispin served as private secretary to ministers responsible for negotiating Britain's entry into the European Community and then headed the Foreign Office's Western organisation department at the time it was pressing for the landmark Helsinki Declaration.

While serving as Britain's ambassador in Mexico from 1981 to 1983, he was knighted by the Queen on the deck of the royal yacht Britannia.

When he arrived at the United Nations from the Overseas Development Administration in 1987, the thaw in superpower relations was already being felt in the Security Council and the five permanent members — Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States — had begun meeting to coordinate their actions.

The impeccably dressed diplomatic veteran, who entertains with reassuring ease and discusses



The frigate USS Reid, patrolling the southern waters of the Gulf yesterday. But warships converging on the area are not expected to begin a blockade immediately

Moscow hint of naval blockade approval

From MARY DEDEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE Soviet Union said yesterday that it would comply with the UN Security Council resolution imposing sanctions on Iraq and hinted that it might not oppose the mustering of an international naval blockade, although it would not necessarily be willing to join one.

A Soviet foreign ministry spokesman, Yuri Gremikikh, declined to say whether Moscow had been approached by the United States about joining a possible blockade, insisting that the question was hypothetical.

He did not reject or condemn the idea, however, as he had done at the end of last week.

Meanwhile, the foreign ministry played down the appearance of a Soviet destroyer in the Gulf, saying that such activity was normal and part of routine measures to protect civilian shipping in the region.

Mr Gremikikh said: "Naval muscle-flexing in the Gulf is not the best approach to solving conflicts." He denied, however, that Moscow was in any way concerned about the US naval build-up.

The spokesman's comments came amid intense diplomatic activity in Moscow, where the deputy foreign minister responsible for Middle Eastern affairs, Aleksandr Belovogov, received the US ambassador, as well as continuing his daily meetings with the ambassadors of Iraq and Kuwait.

These meetings are believed to concentrate on securing the safety of Soviet citizens, although there is speculation that they may also provide a channel for unofficial Western communications with Iraq.

Foreign ministry figures put the number of Soviet citizens in Kuwait at about 900 and in Iraq about 8,000.

Those in Iraq include military advisers, but there was no information about what instructions they had received from Moscow since the Soviet

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But it was the strength of the international condemnation of Iraq that had induced the government to associate itself with the UN sanctions. By doing so, Switzerland had "avoided becoming isolated from the concert of nations".

A government decree forbids all commercial dealings with Iraq or Kuwait. Fines for violations will be up to ten times the value of goods or financial transactions involved.

Swiss drop neutrality to support embargo

From ALAN McGREGOR IN GENEVA

SWITZERLAND yesterday sidestepped its policy of "permanent neutrality" and opted to line up with the international community and apply United Nations economic sanctions against Iraq.

The government said one factor in the unprecedented decision was the "brutal" manner in which Iraq had invaded Kuwait. Any other decision would have shown the Swiss as "weak and cowardly", Rene Feifer, the foreign minister, said. The

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THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: IRAQ'S NEIGHBOURS

Saddam's grab for power shatters old alliances in Middle East

From RICHARD OWEN
IN NICOSIA

NEARLY a week after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait it is becoming clear that Arab alliances and the Middle East equation have been shattered by President Saddam Hussein's action. There are likely to be far-reaching consequences for Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the Palestinians which the Iraqi dictator may not have foreseen and certainly did not intend.

King Hussein of Jordan, hitherto regarded as a bastion of Arab moderation and Western influence, has deeply angered the United States by emerging as an apologist for the Iraqi ruler. Assuming President Saddam keeps his promises and Jordan acts as a transit point for Western citizens allowed out of Kuwait and Iraq, Western dismay may be assuaged.

Nevertheless, the lingering impression given by Jordanian behaviour is that King Hussein has

bowed to bullying tactics from Baghdad and has let down President Mubarak of Egypt, the leading Arab moderate. Jordan is most unlikely, given its present stance, to join in sanctions against Iraq. On the contrary, the overland route from Iraq to Jordan's Red Sea port of Aqaba will acquire greater importance, perhaps becoming Iraq's lifeline.

Israel has emerged with its position strengthened. Israelis are fearful of President Saddam's unpredictability and ruthlessness, especially since the Iraqi leader has a huge arsenal at his disposal. The invasion of Kuwait has shocked many Israelis into accepting the possibility that President Saddam might even attack Israel in a final attempt to go down in history as a great Arab leader who destroyed the Jewish state.

But Israel, too, has awesome firepower at its disposal, plus the will to survive at all costs. It can assume that President Saddam

like the rest of the world, takes it for granted that Israel has nuclear weapons — and would use them. The Kuwait invasion, moreover, has reinstated Israel's strategic value to the United States. Israel yesterday said it would shortly test its new Arrow air defence missile, built and paid for with American help as part of the strategic defence initiative and designed to counter Iraqi and Syrian threats.

These developments, combined with the political and diplomatic setback for President Mubarak, are also bound to have an impact on the Palestinian question. Until recently, the picture looked very different. The Palestine Liberation Organisation, led by Yasser Arafat, held an 18-month dialogue with the United States following Mr Arafat's renunciation of terrorism and recognition of Israel. With President Mubarak as mediator, talks in Cairo between Israeli and Palestinian delegations appeared to be on the cards, with the

prospect of an end to the Palestinian uprising. The end of the Cold War had sharply reduced Soviet-American regional confrontation, making Israel less valuable to Washington as a "land-based aircraft carrier" and giving the Americans greater room for manoeuvre in putting pressure on Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister.

Now the American-PLO dialogue is in ruins, and Mr Shamir presides over a right-wing government with members who want to annex the West Bank and transform the whole of former Palestine (except for Jordan) into Greater Israel. This prospect still alarms many in the West, including many American Jews. Now, not for the first time, pressure on Israel to retreat from a hardline position has been eased by an Arab act of aggression and the resulting disarray in the Arab world.

The PLO has not helped its case

by aligning itself so firmly with President Saddam. It has increasingly fallen under the influence of Iraq since the Arab summit in Baghdad in May, and there are even moves to transfer PLO headquarters to the Iraqi capital from Tunis. "Another public relations disaster for Arafat," one Middle East diplomat said yesterday.

The split in the Arab world makes plain that some Arabs at least do admire President Saddam as an Arab强人. There is even the danger that an all-out Western military assault to smash Iraq's power and bring it to its knees — an option which appears to be gathering pace — could swing Arab sympathy back to President Saddam and his attempts to pose as a latter day Saladin. In radical states such as Syria, there has been little grief for the ousted emir of Kuwait and his ruling family. But even President Assad of Syria has strongly condemned Iraq's action,

noting that the world would "resemble a jungle if every country were to impose its illegitimate viewpoints through aggression and the use of force".

Such remarks make King Hussein's firm support for the Iraqi leader — backed in public by only a few other Arab states, such as Yemen — all the more puzzling. King Hussein will have been influenced by the fact that 70 per cent of Jordan's population is Palestinian, and many are sympathetic to Iraq. Yesterday Jordanian officials were still arguing that to condemn the Iraqi dictator outright would be to side with the United States and Israel "who want to dominate and control Arab oil and wealth".

This has prompted fury in Washington, with President Bush angry over the Arab world's failure to "condemn this outrage and get Saddam out", and in particular, King Hussein's apparent willingness "to condone what

has place". King Hussein said this week that President Saddam was "a patriot for the Arab world" and that fears of encouraging foreign intervention had led Jordan to oppose an Arab League resolution denouncing Baghdad.

For Israel, the crisis in Kuwait is worrying as well as advantageous. Iraq's strength and its willingness to use it ruthlessly, means that Israel could not repeat its 1981 pre-emptive strike against Iraq's nuclear reactor without risking a certain Iraqi response. President Saddam threatened to "scorch half of Israel" with chemical weapons in April and has boasted of developing rockets with a range of up to 1,150 miles. Yesterday Moshe Arens, the Israeli defence minister, said the invasion of Kuwait did not in itself constitute a "cause of war" for Israel but told the Knesset that Israel would "respond" to a clear change in the geo-strategic balance.

Westerners leave Gulf states amid fear of attack

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

INTERNATIONAL companies based in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia were yesterday pulling out many of their Western expatriate staff and their families because of the Kuwaiti invasion.

The Foreign Office advised British dependents and non-essential staff in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia to leave and those on leave from Bahrain not to return.

Bahrain, an island in the Gulf linked by a causeway to Saudi Arabia, has a particular vulnerability in the strife because an airfield in the south is used by United States military forces and Kuwaiti jets are believed to be based there as a result of the two states' military cohesion in the Gulf Co-operation Council.

Fears that the airfield might become an Iraqi military target were heightened by unconfirmed reports that Iraq sent a diplomatic note to the government in Manama, the Bahrain capital, asking it to seek the withdrawal of all American forces by tomorrow.

The actions of Gulf financial officers in moving funds from Kuwait to Bahrain as the invasion took place was another cause for anxiety on the island.

"There is no panic but many of the major companies — in particular Japanese and

South Korean banking companies — are withdrawing their expatriate staff," said one Western business executive.

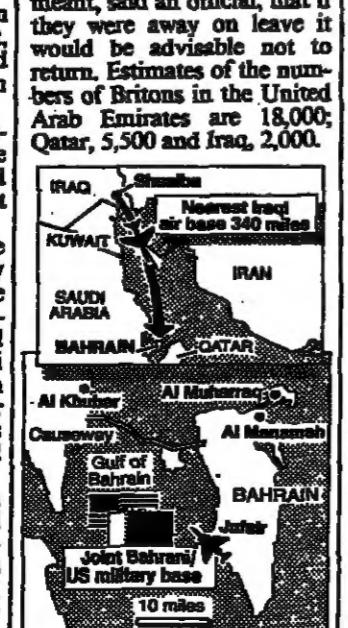
Bahrain is a major international business and finance centre in the Middle East. Its government and the banking, financial services and oil company representatives based on the island have developed an acute sensitivity to the possible repercussions of developments elsewhere in the Gulf region. Some investment brokers had been withdrawn because of the downturn in business activity caused by the developments in the days prior to the invasion.

Bahrain business sources said brokers R. P. Martin, Tullet and Tokyo, M. W. Marshall, Charles Fulton and United Arab Broking Company had closed. They named one of the bank representative offices as the Swiss Banking Corp.

The island's expatriate community is estimated at about 150,000 consisting mostly of service workers from the Indian subcontinent and Arab countries. There are between 10,000 and 15,000 Westerners.

With the Saudi Arabian airport at Dharan closed, international companies operating in Saudi Arabia are using the causeway to bring out their personnel and the Bahrain airport is having to cope with considerable extra passenger traffic. There are an estimated 22,000 Britons in Saudi Arabia, of whom some 8,000 are in the Eastern Province.

Britons in two other Gulf states, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, were also advised by the Foreign Office yesterday to "thin out", which meant, said an official, that if they were away on leave it would be advisable not to return. Estimates of the numbers of Britons in the United Arab Emirates are 18,000; Qatar, 5,500 and Iraq, 2,000.



Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, saluting the coffin of Bruno Kreisky, the former Austrian chancellor who died last week. In comments to Franz Vranitsky, the present chancellor, in Vienna yesterday

Mr Arafat warned against any Western military action against Iraq. An Austrian source close to the chancellery said Mr Arafat said that any such intervention would make an inter-Arab solution to the conflict impossible. The PLO

leader also had a brief meeting with Dr Kurt Waldheim, the Austrian president. Kreisky was the first leader to receive Mr Arafat in a Western capital in 1979, and in 1980 granted the PLO quasi-diplomatic status in Vienna. (AFP)

Britons trying to reach Jordan

By ANDREW McEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR, AND RICHARD OWEN IN NICOSIA

HUNDREDS of Britons living in Iraq were preparing last night to try to leave the country after being telephoned by British diplomats. They were advised that wives, children and non-essential staff should leave at once.

Whitehall sources said the Iraqi authorities had said they would allow people to leave if they had exit visas. A number of business travellers had such visas and some of them were expected to try to cross the border into Jordan. Many of the 2,000 Britons living in Iraq were expected to apply for exit visas.

Last night, the Japanese embassy in Amman said that an Iraqi Airways jet carrying 78 people, mostly Japanese tourists, and some Iraqi citizens, including members of a football team, had arrived in Jordan, the first commercial flight allowed out of the country since the invasion. The embassy said that the aircraft was due to leave Amman for an undisclosed destination.

Early reports yesterday said that Baghdad had decided to

let foreigners leave through Jordan, but the Jordanian authorities were unable to confirm that at the time to the British embassy in Amman.

British diplomats had great difficulty in obtaining information about Britons who were moved by bus from Kuwait to Baghdad in the weekend. They confirmed that 58 Britons were had been transferred and were being held in hotels, but Baghdad gave no explanation except to say that it was "policy".

Whitehall sources said only 34 of them were from the British Airways aircraft that was on the ground at Kuwait when Iraq invaded last Thursday. The aircraft was carrying 367 people, of whom 63 were British.

The remaining 24 people moved to Baghdad had been in Kuwait for other reasons and were rounded up from the hotels where they were staying. Some Germans, Americans and Spaniards have also been transferred to Baghdad.

The foreign office has made no protest against the transfers on the ground that Iraq's

reasons are unclear. There is a possibility that it may be planning to repatriate them. A spokesman said that law and order in Kuwait appeared to be deteriorating, while increasing numbers of conscript troops were extending their areas of deployment into the suburbs. Kuwait's borders remained closed and its telephone and telex links out of action.

The latest developments qualified earlier optimism and confirmed a cautionary note from some diplomats who expressed scepticism about the suggested exodus.

The Swedish foreign ministry said: "Our embassies in Baghdad and Kuwait report that no foreigners leave the countries, except for embassy and United Nations personnel."

American sources said, however, that the United States had asked permission to bring American citizens across the Jordan-Iraq border to Kuwait, and that buses were being sent last night to pick up any who managed to cross.

address to the world. Arab public opinion could easily swing to active support of Iraq, and the old anti-imperialist formula will once again be used as they have been so many times before. That is what the president is banking on because he understands that in the end there are not enough tanks and fighter aircraft in Iraq, nor even is there the stomach among Iraqis for a really grinding resistance to concerted military action against him.

The question therefore is whether the world community has the determination to destroy him. Rhetoric coupled with threats that are not backed militarily as much as necessary are worse than useless. With the right combination of circumstances they just might transform the Iraqi president into the most formidable Arab leader the modern world has seen. Those are the stakes that are on the table in President Saddam's great gamble.

The Arab malaise is one of ideas, of alternative political values to those being projected today by the Iraqi army. The symptoms of the malaise can be read in phrases such as "the Arab family", "the brotherhood of all Arabs", phrases that, astonishingly, were being mouthed by the deposed Emir of Kuwait even in his television

The Iraqi-backed "provisional government of free Kuwait" has warned the Western powers to remember that they have citizens trapped in Kuwait and Iraq, an apparent attempt to deter sanctions.

The Iraqi embassy in Jordan said: "Iraq might be loosening travel restrictions on foreigners, and the government is considering facilitating the departure of the foreign community for those who wish to leave Iraq or Kuwait".

One Jordanian official added: "Any foreigner who wishes to depart from Iraq or Kuwait through Jordan is more than welcome".

Yesterday Tehran intensified its vociferous campaign against



Iran and Syria confident of political gain

From JUAN CARLOS GUMUCIO IN DUBAI

SIGNIFICANT political gains are expected to reward Baghdad's neighbouring enemies as a side-effect of President Saddam Hussein's widely condemned invasion of Kuwait. Iran and Syria, although officially alarmed and angered, were reported yesterday to be privately confident that Iraq's military adventure will soon produce a long-sought diplomatic rehabilitation.

The impression prevails in official circles in Tehran and Damascus that it is only a matter of time before world powers seeking to punish Baghdad may try to recruit active support from the Iranians and the Syrians. In theory at least, the response would be surprisingly positive. Both countries are striving to break their crippling diplomatic isolation.

Syria, Iraq's main Arab country, was the first Arab country to condemn firmly the invasion of Kuwait as a dangerous adventure that would only benefit Israel. This was reiterated during high-level contacts between Syria and Iran in the past 48 hours. Tehran, in a spectacular departure from its recent conciliatory posture towards Iraq, is now saying that President Saddam's actions are once again opening the gates of the Gulf to foreign powers.

The similarity in the positions of Damascus and Tehran during the crisis — a logical result of their alliance during the Gulf war — is being further underlined. Recent statements from the two governments are clearly intended to inflame local public alarm in the face of Iraq's expansionist ambitions. But in private Iranian and Syrian officials are said to be delighted by the future diplomatic prospects stemming from international condemnation of Iraq.

Syria and Iran, Baghdad's most feared neighbours, are equally eager to build bridges with the West. President Assad is a shrewd statesman, fully aware that the new crisis in the Gulf cannot only foster talks with the West but help him emerge as a reasonable Arab alternative to President Saddam. As one Western diplomat in the Gulf put it yesterday, President Assad can now remind the international community of his warnings about the foreign powers.

Iran, severely weakened by eight years of war and international isolation, is desperately seeking Western help to cope with its monumental economic challenges. Analysts in the Middle East point out that although Iran's attempts to improve relations with Western capitals are still tied to foreign hostages held by pro-Iranian extremists in Lebanon, Tehran could win valuable points by supporting the threats against President Saddam.

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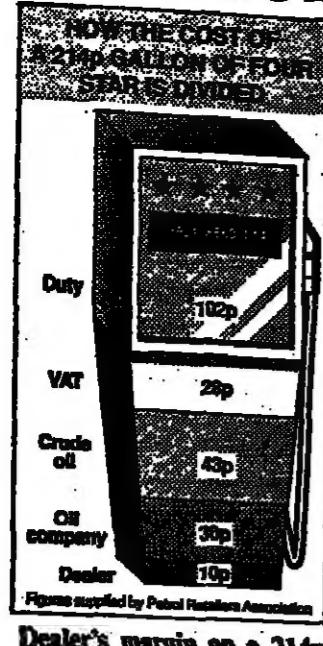
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THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: THE BRITISH PERSPECTIVE

Record four-star price to be beaten as petrol set to rise by 5p

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT



Dealer's margin on a 214p gallon of petrol is 10p

PETROL prices are set to rise by a further 5p just days after yesterday's increase to a record £2.14 for a gallon of four-star.

Oil industry analysts predicted swinging increases almost before garage staff marked up yesterday's new prices. BP, Britain's third largest petrol retailer, yesterday followed Esso, the market leader, by increasing its price for four-star petrol by 10.5p to 214.5p, while prices at 1,100 Esso stations will go up from 203.7p to 210.5p.

Motorists face another £30 rise in the average annual cost of motoring as a result. Oil company executives are bracing themselves for renewed criticism just six months after being cleared of price-fixing by the Monopolies and Mergers

Commission (MMC). Executives told the commission then, and it agreed, that pump prices reflected increases in the rate for bulk petrol on the Rotterdam spot market. In six weeks, bulk petrol has risen from \$215 a tonne to \$317.5 a tonne.

The Gulf conflict is at the heart of the most dramatic swing in the past few days, but analysts and retailers believe that there is an underlying trend which will keep the £2 gallon whatever the outcome of the troubles in the Middle East. Public perception of a cartel of major oil firms milking the motorist is far from the truth, analysts say. When the MMC reported in February it found that prices in January 1989 were lower in real terms than in the same

month of 1968, and similar to prices in 1973, before the first oil problems due to the Arab-Israeli war.

Those findings were reinforced in a survey by the Automobile Association of prices around Europe at the end of July which showed that the cost of a gallon of four-star was lower in Britain than in many competitor nations. That was in spite of customs and excise duty and value added tax, which account for more than half of the UK pump price.

Yesterday's rises will not greatly alter the international petrol price league table for Europe. The United States is also suffering from a round of price rises as oil shortages force multi-national oil companies to bid for dwindling supplies. Paul Spedding, oil analyst with Kleinwort Bent

son, said: "The real level of petrol prices is extremely low. Because the price of petrol is so heavily taxed in most countries, even large scale rises in bulk prices are not fully reflected in price increases at the pumps."

"Oil companies have in the past reflected the movements in the spot markets, and that

by 17 per cent after yesterday's increases in pump prices and will not relish fresh rises in the next few days. The AA said that motorists will suffer increased costs of about £100 this year caused by Budget tax increases and other price rises.

The motoring organisation said it was worthwhile shopping around because many supermarkets and discount forecourts would offer substantial savings.

The Tesco chain was still offering four-star yesterday at 199.6p, with unleaded at 186p and diesel at 165p. Sainsbury's store in Crayford, south London had four-star priced at 194.6p. They said that they were unlikely to be able to hold those prices for long.

Action Service Stations, owned by Don Humphries, the South Wales entrepreneur, has traditionally been the

cheapest British garage chain, undercutting major competitors like Shell and Esso. The firm's 31 garages were yesterday offering four-star at 195p a gallon - 19p less than Esso and BP.

Mark Jenkins, who manages the independent for Mr Humphries, said that it will have to follow the oil majors and put up prices by 5p or 6p in the next few days, exceeding the £2 a gallon limit for the first time.

Q8, the British operating arm of Kuwait Petroleum, said yesterday that its 900 petrol stations were running normally. The company has been given a dispensation by the government to carry on trading despite the freezing of Kuwaiti-owned assets because the business acts autonomously from its Middle East parent.

PETROL PRICES AROUND EUROPE

| | 4-star | Unleaded | Diesel |
|-------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Italy | 201.3 | 200.4 | 191.3 |
| France | 254.1 | 250.0 | 173.2 |
| Ireland | 253.6 | 244.5 | 180.4 |
| Denmark | 247.7 | 217.2 | 171.8 |
| Netherlands | 237.7 | 226.8 | 135.0 |
| Portugal | 231.8 | 223.2 | 149.5 |
| Belgium | 226.3 | 212.7 | 155.4 |
| Austria | 210.9 | 200.9 | 175.4 |
| Spain | 202.2 | 210.0 | 150.9 |
| UK | 197.8 | 184.4 | 171.8 |
| Germany | 192.2 | 176.3 | 140.4 |
| Greece | 177.7 | 170.0 | 80.9 |
| Luxembourg | 168.3 | 147.7 | 99.1 |

Source: Automobile Association at end of July

Thatcher summons cabinet to review strategy on Gulf

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister has called senior ministers to a Downing Street meeting this morning to review the latest developments in the Gulf.

Margaret Thatcher, who returned from the United States yesterday, will chair the cabinet's overseas and defence committee at which Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, will report on the diplomatic moves to isolate Iraq. Tom King, the defence secretary, will discuss Britain's options for helping in policing the trade embargo.

Other ministers at the meeting are expected to be John Wakeham, the energy secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the deputy prime minister, and Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary. Mrs Thatcher will bring colleagues up to date with American plans to enforce a blockade against Iraq after her meetings with Presi-

dent Bush and Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary general.

With oil prices soaring to a five-year high, John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, will attend today's meeting amid signs that his economic strategy could be seriously affected by the events of the past few days.

Senior ministers accept they could have an important bearing on the timing of the next election.

Treasury sources said that the oil price rise will be reflected in the August retail price index published next month. Ministers believe it could result in inflation staying in double figures for longer than expected. The Treasury says that this year's public spending round, already tilted among the bloodiest, will be even tougher. All the spending ministers have recently re-

cived a strongly-worded letter from Norman Lamont, chief secretary to the Treasury, warning them to lower their expectations. The Treasury maintains that it is too early to be talking of "doom and gloom scenarios" and that oil prices stabilise quickly the damage will be limited.

The inflation rise should not of itself delay Britain's entry into the European exchange-rate mechanism, according to Tory economic experts. They advise that the other European Community countries whose inflation levels Britain is trying to match will be equally, if not more harshly, affected by the oil price increase.

Labour and Conservative strategists were agreed last night that the likelihood of an election in June next year had waned further. It was questionable whether the economic indicators would have been pointing in the right direction by next summer, they said. With interest rates likely to stay high this now seemed improbable.

Tory strategists emphasised the importance of the public understanding that higher inflation resulting from an oil price explosion was outside Britain's control and not due to economic mismanagement.

That said, it did not make Ted Heath popular in 1973, one said.

They saw both electoral benefits and dangers in a prolonged dispute with Iraq. While the prime minister's leadership qualities came to the fore and were generally recognised at such times, the government could suffer if it appeared impotent in the face of an Iraqi refusal to release hostages.

Senior Conservatives believe it is unlikely that Mr Major will increase interest rates to counter the inflationary impact of the oil price rise. The fear is that this would immediately feed through into higher mortgages, raising the retail index at the start of the annual wage round. With

signs of the economy slowing down he could even cut interest rates soon; but he will be wary of fueling a boost in consumer spending. The most likely option remains that they will stay at their present level for the time being to ram home the Chancellor's anti-inflationary message.

Among the spending ministers in the Treasury's sights is John MacGregor, the education secretary. He is understood to have submitted a substantial bid for extra spending on a school building programme, extra places in higher education and scientific research, grant-maintained schools and city technology colleges.

Putting the kettle on again, Mr Hayward managed to pop a tea bag in a cup but the ringing telephone prevented him from brewing up. "I guess I'll be here for the next few days and nights permanently on the telephone," he said.

• The support line number is 0272-572540.

MP links families in Middle East woe

By RAY CLANCY

ROBERT Hayward finished his lunch yesterday, four hours after he prepared it, and answered another call on the help line he has set up for relatives of the 3,000 Britons trapped in Kuwait and Iraq.

With one hand poised over his computer, the other on the receiver, the Conservative MP for Kingswood, Bristol, said he had been overwhelmed by the number of people who had been in touch. "The phone has never stopped ringing since 9am. People are calling from all over the country. I underestimated the frustration they are going through," he said.

"They have not heard from their husbands, sons, daughters, brothers and sisters for over four days. Information is so short and confusing and they are glad to find a sympathetic voice on the other end of the telephone."

Mr Hayward has been patiently taking hundreds of calls and logging all the details on his computer. "It is intended to be a support line for relatives who are desperately concerned about the whereabouts of their loved ones. With virtually no information emerging from Kuwait or Iraq it helps them just to talk to someone who is in the same position," Mr Hayward said.

He launched the line yesterday because of his concern about a friend who is, as far as he knows, in a hotel in Kuwait surrounded by Iraqis. The Foreign Office relays the latest information it has to Mr Hayward. He said: "I don't believe in hauling them into a false sense of security. I feel

obliged to tell people it is a dangerous situation, but I also want to reassure them that they are not alone."

As the telephone rang for the 400th time his booming voice filled the room while he put yet another worried relative in touch with someone in their area. One woman telephoned to say she was worried about her daughter and son-in-law whom she thought were on the British Airways jet stranded in Kuwait. Mr Hayward took her name and telephone number and immediately contacted the airline and asked it to help.

Another woman called to say she was worried about a friend's daughter who is married to a Kuwaiti. He put her in touch with another woman with the same worry. "Hopefully by talking about it they can help each other."

"I have been surprised by the number of British women who are married to Kuwaitis. They are here on holiday while their husbands are working in Kuwait and they don't know what has happened."

"All the talk of a resistance army has made them even more worried. They just want to know if their husbands are alive and well."

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British Airways says some passengers taken to Baghdad

THE crew and half the passengers of the British Airways flight stranded after the Iraqi invasion are still in Kuwait, the mother of one of the air stewardesses was told yesterday.

British Airways told Edna Sherry that the rest of the passengers had been taken to Baghdad. Mrs Sherry, from Belfast, said the airline told her that her daughter Anne, aged 29, was being held in the Regency hotel in Kuwait with the rest of the Boeing 747 crew and half of its passengers. "We are very worried," Mrs Sherry said. "Really they are all being held hostage."

Eleven children were among the 367 people on flight 149 from London to Madras and Kuala Lumpur; the Foreign Office says there are 63 Britons among the passengers. Two of the crew, air steward Neil and air steward Dyer, aged 29 and 28, were recently married. Denise's

informed as best they can, but they are finding it difficult to get any communication.

"We are very worried that they should be in the hands of Saddam Hussein," Mr Brice said. "What makes it more difficult is the lack of information. We have heard nothing from the Foreign Office. British Airways have kept us



The prime minister arriving at Heathrow yesterday after talks with President Bush

Air costs rely on fuel buyers' skill

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE cost of air travel over the next year could depend on the foresight and skill shown by airline fuel buyers over the past few weeks.

Some scheduled airlines bought up to nine months supply of jet kerosene at a fixed price when it was selling at about 70 cents a gallon, while others are already being forced to pay more than 100 cents a gallon because of the rising price of crude oil.

Some tour operators, such as Thomson Holidays, took out a sophisticated safeguard against fuel price increases by agreeing to pay a fixed sum for each passenger carried next summer in return for a guar-

antee that any rise in the cost of fuel over a level agreed in mid-July would be met by the insurance company.

Others, however, face difficulties in setting the brochure price of their package holidays for next summer, due to the price of oil.

Meetings were taking place throughout the airline industry last night as fuel buyers tried to work out their next move. Some said that the dispute could be short-lived and if they kept their nerve, the price of crude oil, and therefore of jet kerosene, would fall again before next summer. That would enable

average package holiday, such as a package holiday, such as £10 to the cost of each seat on a return flight of three hours each way. If tour operators have to pass this on, their 1991 summer holidays will be considerably more expensive than those of their rivals who have an insurance safeguard.

Meetings were taking place throughout the airline industry last night as fuel buyers tried to work out their next move. Some said that the dispute could be short-lived and if they kept their nerve, the price of crude oil, and therefore of jet kerosene, would fall again before next summer. That would enable

them to match prices offered by insured competitors.

Others feared that rising oil prices would cause a general economic downturn, reducing the number of people booking holidays. They pointed out that, after the last two big oil price rises in 1974 and 1980, the number of holidays booked fell by 16 per cent and 13 per cent respectively.

Whatever price the large companies do set, however, for the rest of this summer, next winter and the following summer, passengers are guaranteed that there will be no sudden fuel surcharge.

Scheduled airlines face an even greater dilemma than charter airlines. Fuel accounts for about 15 per cent of total operating costs of an average scheduled airline. Even if fuel costs doubled, therefore, it would only have a marginal effect on total flight costs.

Airlines have developed a sophisticated system of buying fuel on the futures market, often being prepared to pay a higher price now for a fixed price in the future. This involves a large outlay of cash, however, and some airlines are reluctant to commit themselves in advance, usually developing a mix of spot-priced fuel and futures.

They have to decide whether to buy fuel being offered over the next nine months at the higher price now, in the expectation that it will rise still further, or hold off and hope that the price will eventually fall. One industry expert said: "It is a real problem, and one involving political skill, managerial expertise and luck."

The engineer, who works for a company in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, had been working on a Kuwait government contract. His family are still in Britain. It was a potentially life-threatening

situation. We drove non-stop for 17 hours. The drive was a nightmare and I was almost dead at the end of it. We had terrible arguments with immigration officials over visas, but luckily we met some Kuwaiti people who helped us out."

Mr Upton, who has worked in Kuwait for seven years, related the ordeal in a telephone call from Dubai to his parents in Framlington, Suffolk. His mother, Gillian Upton said: "It was a tremendous relief when he rang to say they were safe. They plan to stay in Dubai until the position in Kuwait is clearer."

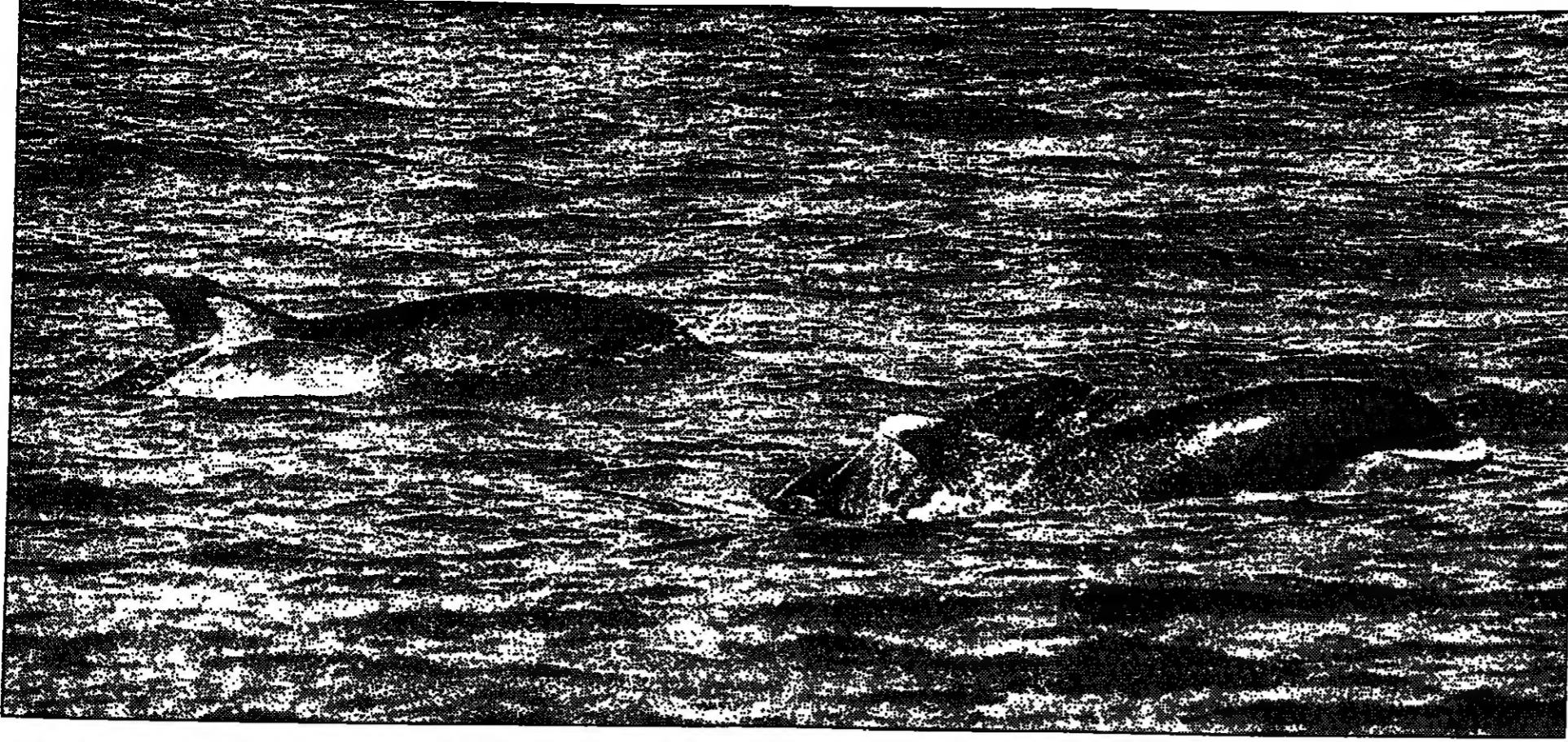
A service engineer for a military equipment firm is among Britons still believed trapped in Kuwait.

The engineer, who works for a company in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, had been working on a Kuwait government contract. His family are still in Britain.

"Added to that, when it comes to deciding whether to raise the price of an airline ticket, everything depends on your competitor."

Christopher Ryan, of the United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association, said: "This is a matter between the men and their employers, and that is where the matter should be resolved. On safety, we have stressed that there is the machinery for the workforce and their representatives to raise their concerns. We as an industry, and as individual operators, are obliged to treat matters like this seriously and we do so."

"There have been many allegations about safety offshore, very few of which have been substantiated. The emphasis we are giving to safety offshore is a number one priority. All of us are breaking our backs to ensure that risks are kept to a minimum."



Dolphin watch: Rony O'Driscoll, a Greenpeace volunteer researcher, observing bottlenose dolphins in Cardigan Bay during a ten-day pilot study by the environmental group. Each dolphin sighted was

photographed to identify the shape of the dorsal fin and any distinguishing features (Daniel Treisman writes). The animals' behaviour and direction were also logged. The researchers hope that

the data will reveal the size of the dolphin population in the bay, where up to 50 are believed to live. Eight species of whales and dolphins have been seen. Cardigan Bay and the Moray Firth are

thought to be the only places in Britain with bottlenose populations and Greenpeace is campaigning to have them designated marine conservation areas. A follow-up survey is planned for Octo-

ber. "We had a sighting of a group every day we were out," Isabel McCrea, Greenpeace wildlife campaigner, said. "We were helped by local fishermen who radioed us when they sighted dolphins."



British executives still reluctant to learn about Europe

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

BRITISH businessmen and women remain stubbornly ignorant of the rest of Europe although their futures may lie there and in spite of millions of pounds being spent on their education. There is little indication that many of them are prepared to do much to improve the situation.

More than half of the business executives in a survey of 352 did not know who Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, was; fewer than half knew that CAP stood for Common Agricultural Policy; and only one in three could say in German: "Good morning, my name is Mr

Smith." The survey was carried out by Mori for the British division of Epson, the Japanese computer company, to discover if British business was prepared for the introduction of the single European market in 1992. It is not.

Only 40 per cent of those interviewed believed they were equipped to deal with the single market while 58 per cent claimed to know little or nothing about its likely effects in spite of a £14 million government campaign to sell the virtues of 1992.

The executives questioned had an equally dim view of their colleagues: only 2 per

cent believed the level of knowledge of UK business men and women in general was "very adequate", and 56 per cent believed it was "not at all adequate".

The survey found that 77 per cent did not know the letters ERM stood for exchange-rate mechanism; 53 per cent were able to identify Sir Leon Brittan as one Britain's European commissioners; 37 per cent knew that the headquarters of the European Commission is in Brussels; 33 per cent knew that there are 12 members of the European Community; 20 per cent did not know that Bonn is the capital of West Germany; and only 17 per cent could name their European Member of Parliament.

Six out of ten could not conduct a simple business conversation in a foreign language. Of those who could, 30 per cent spoke French, 9 per cent German and 3 per cent Italian and Spanish.

Three out of four executives agreed that the single market was likely to be the most important business event of the 1990s, yet 50 per cent of those interviewed said it would have little or no impact on their own business.

Paul Clark, Liberal Democrat leader, said yesterday he would again press for a coalition to restore financial stability, a move the Labour moderates have already rejected. A rent rise alone, he said yesterday, would do little to solve the city's deeply entrenched difficulties. "I suspect that the Labour package will be no more than short-term measures. Even so, we do not want to see Liverpool forced towards bankruptcy and it may be that we will abstain if the alternative is to cause financial chaos."

Meanwhile the Merseyside Development Corporation, the government-funded agency set up to regenerate the region, has reported its most successful year. It has secured £37 million of private investment for corporation-promoted projects and a further £50 million from businesses.

By RONALD FAUX

AN ATTEMPT by the moderate Labour leadership on Liverpool city council to raise council house rents by £4 a week and steer the city away from bankruptcy is likely to succeed today.

The 29 hard left councillors suspended by the national executive of the Labour party may still oppose the rise but 27 Liberal Democrats will abstain if they see the city being edged further towards financial collapse. This should leave a narrow majority supporting the rent rise, part of a package of measures proposed by the Labour moderate.

In a written reminder sent out with the agenda for today's meeting the city solicitor has warned councillors of their duty to set a lawful budget. Liverpool faces a projected £3.6 million deficit on the revenue budget, a figure many councillors believe is optimistically low because it assumes that 95 per cent of Liverpudians will pay their community charge.

Harry Rimmer, leader of

the Labour group, is unlikely to persuade the 29 rebels to drop their opposition to any rent rises, defiance of which led to their suspension by the national executive.

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Patten rejects 'traditional' village development

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN

PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

A FARMER's plan for a new "traditional" village in open countryside near Newbury, Berkshire, was yesterday rejected by Chris Patten, the environment secretary, in a decision that has delighted conservationists.

James Gladstone, the owner of Donnington Grove, a Grade II* listed house, commissioned John Simpson, the "classical" architect whose plans for Paternoster Square by St Paul's Cathedral have won the support of the Prince of Wales, to design a village of 300 houses and flats. The scheme for the village of Upper Donnington, including a square, pub, shops and village hall, was

turned down by Newbury district council last year, and was the subject of a local enquiry, at which Mr Gladstone's appeal against the decision was dismissed.

In a letter published yesterday by the environment department, giving the reasons for his support of the inspector's appeal dismissal, Mr Patten agreed that there was "much that is admirable in the proposals in terms of the design of housing and new settlements". He said, however, that the proposed development would contravene planning policies designed to protect the countryside, and agreed with the inspector that it would have an adverse effect on the local surroundings.

including the Grade I listed Donnington Castle.

• House prices in the UK continued their slide in July, falling by 0.1 per cent on the previous month, and they are now 1.7 per cent lower than a year ago, according to a survey by the Halifax Building Society published yesterday.

• Council tenants on an estate in Birmingham are the first in the country to be given more say in its running under a new scheme approved by Michael Spicer, the housing minister, yesterday. Tenants on the Bloomsbury estate will sit with city councillors on a new tenant management board that will have full responsibility for the running of the estate.

Patten: village proposal would have adverse effect

Drug firms back ban on brown pill bottles

By JILL SHERMAN
SOCIAL SERVICES
CORRESPONDENT

THE drug industry yesterday supported a suggestion to ban brown pill bottles made up by chemists, which often give little information about the medicines they contain, in favour of original drug packs.

The Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry also demanded changes in legislation to ensure that the packs are given to patients unopened, rather than asking chemists to match the number of pills prescribed by tearing off a couple of tablets. If, for example, a doctor prescribes 28 tablets and there are 30 in the pack, then two have to be removed, with the risk that any enclosed information leaflet could be lost.

A report from the Consumers' Association, published yesterday, claimed that manufacturers were legally obliged to put key information on medicine packs, but less information was required on medicines made up or dispensed by pharmacists. "At the moment patients who get brown pill bottles get the poorest information of all," the report in the *Which?* way to *Health* magazine said.

The article said that an estimated six out of ten packs were given to patients already opened. The association is calling for laws allowing pharmacists to dispense the packs which have the closest quantity of contents to the prescription.

The pharmaceutical industry association said that many generic manufacturers were now packaging their drugs in separate boxes and packets rather than selling them in bulk at only a marginal extra cost.

The survey also indicated that British businessmen and women would be entering the single market with their prejudices complete. Nearly half thought the French disliked the British, while 29 per cent thought they were volatile.

Germans were seen as hard-working by 60 per cent, disciplined, 53 per cent; professional, 53 per cent; and well-educated, 45 per cent. The Spanish were seen as volatile by 33 per cent and unprofessional by 19 per cent.

Population of England and Wales exceeds 50m as people live longer

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE population of England and Wales is growing in numbers and age, according to statistics published yesterday. By the middle of last year there were 169,000 more people in the two countries than there had been a year before, an increase of 0.3 per cent, bringing the estimated total close to 50.6 million.

The increase since the last full census in mid-1981 is

estimated to have been 928,000, a rise of 2 per cent. Three-quarters of the population growth between 1981 and last year was due to more births over deaths. The rest stemmed from immigrants outnumbering those emigrating.

The figures show that the number of children aged between ten and 15 has fallen by almost a quarter since 1981. By last year there were 3.6

million in this age group, more than a million fewer than eight years before. The number of pre-school age children has risen by 341,000 (11 per cent) since 1981, bringing to 3.3 million last year the number of children aged under four. Meanwhile, the number of people aged 75 and over has increased by a fifth since 1981 to 3.5 million last year.

Recent changes in local populations include an increase of 21,000 in the population of Greater London compared with 1981, following a fall of 35,000 between 1987 and 1988. Last year's Greater London population was estimated at almost 6.76 million, the same as in 1984.

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East Europeans left singing the blues as West tightens up on visas

From ROGER BOYES
IN WARSAW

THE street theatre of bickering queues, once so common in Warsaw, is now confined to the pavements outside Western embassies. The queue outside the British consulate is treated in the early morning to a guitarist who plays *The Visa Blues*.

The queue around the American embassy is beyond even this sour entertainment. Those entering the consular office yesterday for an interview with a US diplomat first joined the queue last November. By the time the visa is granted and stamped, it will be almost Christmas.

The question of visas for East Europeans has become one of the most pressing East-West human rights issues. It was raised with some passion at the June Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Copenhagen and is a constant irritant.

Passports are being freely issued in East Europe for the first time in more than four decades and there is a vast demand for travel. The West, partly because it is bureaucratically unprepared but chiefly because it fears a flood of emigrants, is closing its gates.

Western embassies in Sofia are dealing with 20 times as many visa applications as in 1989; in Romania there are unpleasant, frequently violent queues waiting to enter the British, American and Canadian consulates. Weary consuls throughout the region say they are doing their best to keep pace, but the real issue seems to be whether East Europeans should go through the wringer at all. The US visa form still demands to know whether the applicant is, or ever has been, a member of the Communist party.

For Britain visas have become a problem at a time when there are far more important opportunities to be grasped. The Polish civil

rights ombudsman has complained about the £20 handling fee — over a week's average wages — charged for British visas. Even if the application is turned down, the money is not returned. The British are dealing with visa applications more swiftly than ever before — many Poles, Bulgarians and Romanians can get an answer within a week — but there are still long queues to hand in application forms or see consular officers.

The joy about the opening of the East is tempered with the fear of post-communist hordes marching westwards in search of jobs. "Under the communists we only got passports if we could prove that we would return — by leaving a hostage in the form of our children, or a big house," a Polish journalist said. "Now everybody has a passport but we have to prove to the West that we are not going to stay. One hostage theory has been replaced by another."

Western anxieties that East Europeans will moonlight while abroad are amply justified. Some 19 million Poles travelled abroad last year, and Czechoslovaks, East Germans and Romanians are discovering mass tourism. A few are staying to claim asylum — granted only rarely nowadays — but many are working illegally on their tourist visas. The Poles in particular have perfected this form of "productive tourism".

The two places willing to accept Poles without visas — Berlin, still under four-power control — and Austria, are swamped at weekends by nomadic traders.

The building "lump" in West Germany is no longer dominated by the unemployed from Liverpool, but by Poles. The cheapest and most efficient servants in New Jersey are Polish and Hungarian. Typically, a young Polish couple will look after the kitchen and chauffeur duties of a wealthy Rhode Island household for \$400

(£214) a week. Does any of this matter? City authorities complain about the competition and the disorder of the East European travellers.

The West Berlin Senate recently accused the Poles of "buying too much", a bizarre grumble from a capitalist administration. Yet modern-market economies should be able to cope with transient, shadow traders providing that they are not trafficking in drugs or weapons.

Western assistance to the East is concentrating on setting up market economies. On the reasonable assumption that this will stabilise the continent. Market reforms entail bankruptcies.

In Poland, especially, unemployment is growing fast. From zero unemployment in January, the number of jobless has reached 620,000. Another 300,000 will be laid off by the close of the summer. The autumn will also see many school leavers entering the

dole queue. This is happening in a country with no unemployment culture. Little wonder that many of the applicants for tourist visas are economic migrants in disguise.

The consistent Western position would be to accept these migrants. The lesson of the 1930s is that mass unemployment does not mix well with infant democracies; the combination leads too easily to populist rabble-rousing. The West is not uniformly closing borders. The West Germans no longer demand visas from Czechoslovaks or Hungarians. Austria opened its frontiers for Romanians and Bulgarians, but quickly changed its mind.

Both Britain and France are unsure how to treat East Germans. But excessive caution seems to be the dominant policy even when it is politically inconsistent. For decades, Washington has been fighting for the right of Jews to leave the Soviet Union. Now, because the numbers are large, it

has put a ceiling of 50,000 Jewish immigrants a year. Soviet Jews are being turned away from America on the grounds that they are not sufficiently persecuted to warrant political asylum.

"When you open the window," says the Polish writer Stanislaw Lee, "you have to shut the door." That is good sense if you are afraid of draughts. But it is short-sighted politics. The East German-Polish border is difficult to cross. The East Germans, aware that they are, in effect, the frontier between the European Community and the East, search cars thoroughly.

The future of this part of Europe probably lies in an East German investment boom, funded by West German industry and supplied with cheap Polish labour — that is, in the permeability of frontiers. Instead the barriers are higher than before and xenophobia is edging out Euphoria.

Leading article, page 11

Jobs plunge darkens outlook for Germanies

From JOHN HOLLAND IN EAST BERLIN

EAST German unemployment has doubled in a month, and in West Germany the figures for July are the worst since 1973. Nearly one million people in East Germany, about 14 per cent of the workforce, are believed to be out of work.

The index supports the view of many German politicians and a growing number of economic experts that the sooner reunification is accomplished, the sooner confidence in East German industries and enterprises will be restored.

Much of the East German workforce is on holiday and will not bear the brunt of a new wave of unemployment until the end of this month, when financial experts predict that most of East Germany's big enterprises will disintegrate for lack of funding.

The unemployment figures come amid rising anger among West German taxpayers, who are taking a closer look at the bills coming in

from the East, including unemployment benefits, and at the insistence of Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, and Theo Waigel, his finance minister, that a strong united German economy can be created without increasing taxes.

Reiner Gohlke, co-chairman of the East German Treuhandanstalt, the world's largest conglomerate with more than 8,000 formerly state-run firms and nearly six million employees, told the East German newspaper *Neue Zeit*, yesterday that "the next six months will be a real descent into the muck" for the East German economy.

Reflecting West German outrage at East Berlin's latest demands for money, Count Otto Lammendorff, the West German liberal party leader, told *Stern* magazine that increased incomes in the East should wait until productivity was brought up to scratch.

In West Germany, figures for July showed an increase in unemployment from 6.9 to 7.1 per cent, or nearly 1.9 million.

The figures represent the worst unemployment in the federal republic since July 1973, at the height of the oil crisis. Recession in the German economy is feared after last week's Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

In West Germany, petrol prices have climbed between six and seven pfennig a litre (9.66p and 11.27p a gallon), and East German prices are expected to follow.

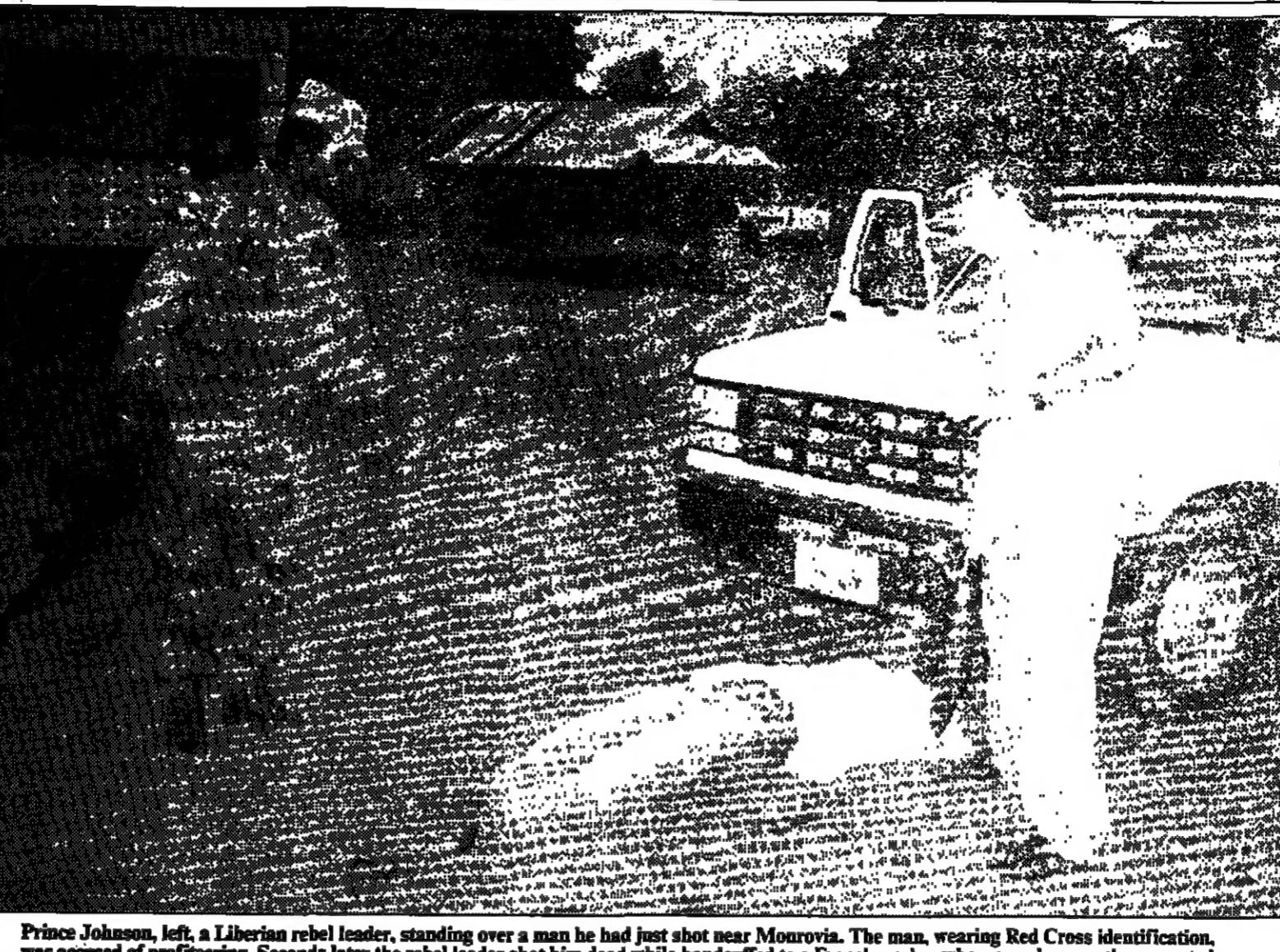
• **BONN:** Herr Kohl yesterday failed to persuade leaders of the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) to support his plan to bring forward German unity and pan-German elections by six weeks (Ian Murray writes).

A popular figure in social circles, Mr Ali-Zardari was known as a playboy before he married Miss Bhutto in December 1987. Playing polo and going to parties were his preoccupations in those days.

His father, Hakim Ali-Zardari, from a middle-class land-owning family, went into the cinema business in Karachi. Mr Hakim Ali-Zardari, who is also chairman of the public accounts committee of the national assembly, has himself been the centre of allegations of misusing his daughter-in-law's office. His son has never been involved in politics; he was associated with the construction business before his marriage.

However, after Miss Bhutto came to power in December 1988 her husband became involved in industry. According to reports, he has acquired big interests in at least three sugar mills and several granite mines in Sind province, though most of the shares are said to be registered in the names of other people.

A report in *The Newsline*, a English-language monthly magazine in Karachi, disclosed that nationalised banks and financial institutions were forced to grant credit for the ventures without solid sec-



Prince Johnson, left, a Liberian rebel leader, standing over a man he had just shot near Monrovia. The man, wearing Red Cross identification, was accused of profiteering. Seconds later the rebel leader shot him dead while handcuffed to a French worker who was subsequently evacuated

Bhutto husband target of corruption charges

From ZAHID HUSSAIN IN ISLAMABAD

CORRUPTION and nepotism were cited as the main charges by President Isdag Khan of Pakistan when he dismissed the 20-month-old government of Benazir Bhutto on Monday. Among those who have benefited from her period in office are various members of her family, but none is more prominent than her husband, Asif Ali-Zardari.

A popular figure in social circles, Mr Ali-Zardari was known as a playboy before he married Miss Bhutto in December 1987. Playing polo and going to parties were his preoccupations in those days.

His father, Hakim Ali-Zardari, from a middle-class land-owning family, went into the cinema business in Karachi. Mr Hakim Ali-Zardari, who is also chairman of the public accounts committee of the national assembly, has himself been the centre of allegations of misusing his daughter-in-law's office. His son has never been involved in politics; he was associated with the construction business before his marriage.

However, after Miss Bhutto came to power in December 1988 her husband became involved in industry. According to reports, he has acquired big interests in at least three sugar mills and several granite mines in Sind province, though most of the shares are said to be registered in the names of other people.

A report in *The Newsline*, a English-language monthly magazine in Karachi, disclosed that nationalised banks and financial institutions were forced to grant credit for the ventures without solid sec-

urity. Officials of the banks and financial institutions were said to have been transferred from their posts when they refused to comply with the requests of the prime minister's husband. The banks were also said to have been used to give patronage to supporters of the ruling Pakistan People's party.

Misuse of public money and pressure on the banks grew so much that the World Bank recently threatened to cut off its credit line to Pakistani banks if the practices were not checked. Misuse of the banks was the main charge levelled against Miss Bhutto's government by the president, but she has always dismissed the charges as an attempt to malign her family.

Leading members of the party have often described the prime minister's husband as the government's main liability. Abida Hussain, a former member of the national assembly, recently sued Mr Asif Ali-Zardari and his father for wrongfully acquiring more than 276 acres in Islamabad to build a hotel.

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attack could have been related to a family feud or suspected collaboration with Israel, but added that Jews may have attacked to avenge the youths' murders.

In Jerusalem, angry Israelis warned journalists to stay out of sight for their safety. In the district where one of the young Israeli victims lived, rioters shouted anti-Arab slogans and threw stones at cars.

Searchers on Monday found the bodies of Ilor Tubul, aged 17, and Ronen Karamani, aged 18, stabbed and gagged with their hands bound behind their backs. Police believe that Palestinian nationalists killed the boys soon after they went missing on Saturday, and dumped their bodies in a ravine near the West Bank village of Beit Hanina.

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Time to open closed ranks

Martin Jacques

In one area the Thatcherites have consistently had a point. More than that, they have been almost alone in addressing it. They have insisted that there is a problem with the professions. By contrast, the Labour party has remained determinedly silent, so one assumes that they are more or less content with the status quo.

The problem with the Thatcherite critique of the professions, though, is that it is too narrowly conceived, beginning and ending with the market. The result is an approach which is at best half-baked.

We live at a time when there is a growing emphasis on the importance of flexibility. Jobs should be transferable, enabling people to move from one occupation to another. Training — the buzzword of the modern economy — is to be available not only after school but throughout one's working life.

Yet the professions have a very different ethos. It is assumed that one enters a profession for life, and the corollary is that it is extremely difficult to gain entry later in life.

The academic world is a classic example. The majority of academics make their way via a degree, a higher degree and a string of academic articles. If one has not got a post by one's late twenties, it is very difficult to gain entry. The idea that alternative work experience might be a suitable or even desirable qualification is frowned upon. Academic life is a closed world which is usually only entered at a particular age and by a single established route.

The same goes for medicine. It is extremely difficult, indeed well nigh impossible, to be admitted to medical school in your late thirties. Even a less regimented profession like journalism, late entry is extremely unusual. Indeed, it is very rare to see a senior post on a newspaper being advertised. Like the other professions, in practice journalism operates something akin to a closed shop.

The effect of this series of closed élites is extremely damaging. It is virtually impossible for academics to be seconded to the civil service for two or three years, or vice-versa. Yet such an interaction would clearly be highly desirable. Similarly, many academics would benefit from a period on a newspaper, allowing them to use their knowledge in other ways, giving them experience of writing for a different and much wider audience. Likewise, many journalists would learn much from a spell in a university. Such traffic, though, remains virtually unknown.

Even more damaging than this short-term inflexibility, however, are the long-term barriers. The standard argument against a woman in her late thirties with

two children gaining entry to medical school is that by the time she is qualified she will have only 20 years of her working life left. But this ignores the different experiences she would bring to a profession which is dominated by men who have started their ascent up the medical ladder at 18 and have known nothing else. She is quite likely to make a much better general practitioner, while some areas of medicine, for example geriatrics, might benefit from being staffed by such older people.

University life presently suffers from the very limited outside experience of most academics. An intake of journalists, civil servants and business people would enormously enrich many university departments, yet given present practices such an influx is inconceivable.

The inflexibility that characterises many professions has become increasingly anachronistic as professionalism itself has permeated a growing number of occupations. Once it was confined to a handful of skills, but now the professional ethic has become characteristic of many areas of employment. The result is that the mystique once associated with the "profession" has largely gone. Increasingly, the skills associated with these jobs overlap with the skills required in traditionally less vaunted kinds of work.

In this democratic era, what was once the preserve of the few has become the preserve of the many, be it air travel, car ownership or the professional qualification. Yet the ideology of professionalism, particularly in the older professions, remains stuck in the past.

This is not an argument against professionalism as such. Nor is it to suggest that barriers to entry based on professional qualification are a bad thing. On the contrary, they are rather desirable. It is just not true that market values offer a better organising principle for the professions than the professional ethos which insists on expertise, qualification, service and standards. One of the reasons why the Thatcherite assault on the professions has failed to convince either the professionals or the public is widespread anxiety about the dilution of this ethos.

That said, the nature of the professions needs to be democratised in a manner which makes them far more porous, flexible and open. Many old distinctions have become increasingly blurred between doctors and nurses, between solicitors and barristers, between academics and journalists. What is more, in an era when people will live much longer and also, one hopes, have longer working lives, the old model of a skill or profession for life becomes increasingly outmoded. Why not an academic for five years, a civil servant for ten, followed by a spell as a doctor?

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

From Letters to the Editor, August 8, 2050

Sir, I read with a bewilderment bordering on anger that the fine old English expression "Earwig! Earwig! Earwig!" for so long used in ringing tones by Mr Speaker as he parades into the chamber of the House of Commons, is to be heard no more. Is no great tradition to be left untouched? Since its adoption in the 1990s, this daily ritual has become part of the fabric of our way of life, a symbol of our national dignity. Combined with the fine, almost mystical, daily action of Mr Speaker in raising his fist in the air a full three times before performing the ceremony of Crushing the Lager Can, this ancient call seemed to symbolise all that is best in the British way of life. Yours faithfully, A.N. Moore (Miss).

August 9, 2050

Sir, May I shed a little light on those mists of time in which Miss Moore believes the expression "Earwig! Earwig! Earwig!" to have been lost? This is undoubtedly a reference to the wig Mr Speaker used to wear (these were the days you should remember, before a cure for baldness had been found). The cry — literally, "Ear Wig On" — was intended to inform the attendants that his somewhat ill-fitting toupee was placed over his ears and he was now ready to proceed. I, too, regret the passing of this age-old cry. Alas, it is not the only part of our heritage to have been deemed fuddy-duddy by the modernists: one remembers with no little regret the recent abandonment of platform shoes by His Majesty on state occasions, the phasing out of the Slouching of the Guards ceremony at Buckingham Palace and the still more ludicrous attempt to turn the Royal Opera House into some new-fangled arena for "live entertainment" pululating with "performers". I fear this country is in grave danger of losing its cultural identity. Yours truly,

Paul Scruton (Major).

August 11, 2050

Sir, Further to the points raised by Major Scruton in his letter of August 9, may I add that our

great national institutions are not alone in suffering the onslaught of erosion? Personal manners, too, have declined these past few decades. At the turn of the century, when civility was still the rule, people would introduce themselves to strangers with a cheery, "Who you lookin' at, then?", to which the correct reply would be, "What's your problem?" One would then be invited by one's new acquaintance to "Come outside and say that". This delightful greeting is now a thing of the past, having gone the way of the dear old flick-knife, along with the over-crowded railway train. I am, sir, your obedient equal, Roger Welch.

August 12, 2050

Sir, My grandmother can still remember those balmy days when, upon buying a pair of stockings, one could rely on them producing a first-rate ladder within a matter of weeks, or even days. Alas, those heady times are no more. Today stockings are manufactured by vast multinational companies which have obliterated the ladder. Their products are thus dimly uniform and predictably characterless. O tempora, O mores!

Yours faithfully, Woodrow Foot.

August 14, 2050

Sir, Further to Mr Welch's letter of August 11, can any of your readers explain the origin of the charming expression, "Shut your mush or I'll bash your block off"? I keep hearing it in the season of Channel 4 films from the 1990s. They certainly don't make them like that any more.

Yours faithfully, Kenny West.

August 15, 2050

Sir, "Shut your mush or I'll bash your block off" is now, of course, the solemn expression employed by His Majesty before his formal address to the House of Commons for the king's speech. Literally translated, it means, I believe "a warm welcome to one and all" — and it serves as a reminder of merrier times.

But the writer's nephew Edward Beckett is adamant that the work should not appear. "My uncle didn't want the text of the play

David Owen urges an anti-Iraq embargo that would not expose Saudi Arabia to further danger

Sanctions by sea to beat Baghdad

The mandatory UN Security Council resolution blocking all trade with Iraq and Kuwait is an important step towards fulfilling the hopes of the UN founders at the San Francisco conference in 1945. Over the next few months the impact of this resolution may be so devastating to Iraq's economy that its leaders will accept the return of the Kuwaiti government, perhaps followed by UN-supervised elections in Kuwait. Yet even after the passing of this resolution, President Bush is reported to be trying to persuade Saudi Arabia to prevent oil from Iraq and Kuwait passing through the pipeline that crosses their territory to the Red Sea. Were Saudi Arabia to interfere with the pipeline, it would become still more politically and militarily exposed. The Saudi pipeline carries only some 600,000 barrels a day, about one million barrels a day less than the Turkish pipeline.

If Saudi Arabia interfered with the pipeline it would give the Iraqis the very excuse to invade that they may well be hoping for. When a nation allows a pipeline to cross its territory, it commits itself to permitting a continuous flow.

Blocking a pipeline has far greater implications for international relations than stopping another country's lorries travelling along one's roads. Once pipelines are blocked or blown up, a state of war effectively exists between the countries involved. To demand that Saudi Arabia act in this way is to urge that it declare war. Before asking Saudi Arabia to do this, the US and Europe should station substantial forces on its territory, ready to repel Iraqi tanks and aircraft. If the western allies were to bomb the pipeline from the air, they would be risking a lot if they expected the Saudis to refuse to repair the pipeline or to allow Iraqi civilians to repair it.

Turkey's decision to stop piping Iraqi oil on to ships of any nationality is courageous. This provides a formula that the Saudis might adopt. Nevertheless, Turkey's position is much stronger than that of Saudi Arabia. It probably has sufficient forces of its own to withstand an Iraqi invasion. If Iraq attacked Turkey, NATO would be obliged to come to its defence, for it is a member state. The UN would do better to

concentrate on banning the carrying of oil from Turkey or Iraq in ships registered in member states, and on preventing the unloading or transporting of oil products. In this way, tankers flying flags of convenience from countries unwilling or unable to enforce a ban would find no outlet. The UN could now be asked to monitor ships at the ports of Incirlik in Turkey and Yanbu in Saudi Arabia. Monitoring ships from ports in Iraq and Kuwait could best be done by US and Soviet satellites, with the information being passed to the UN.

Such a maritime blockade would have the immense advantage of making it unnecessary to single out Saudi Arabia or Turkey. Effectively, their pipelines could no longer be used for Iraqi or Kuwaiti oil, because no other country would be ready to draw it off.

A maritime embargo will have its critics — mainly people who draw the wrong lessons from history. In 1966, following Ian Smith's unilateral declaration of independence in 1965, the UN Security Council passed a resolution banning oil shipments to Rhodesia. Some critics believe it involved a massive deployment of naval forces. This is not so. An effective embargo can be imposed as well at the receiving ports as at the ports of loading. Impounding tankers known to be carrying oil from Iraq or Kuwait, or turning them around at the mouth of the Gulf would be far less dangerous than trying to prevent them ever being loaded.

The precondition of a maritime

blockade is that all maritime nations abide by it. With the end of the cold war, it is likely that the Soviet Union will co-operate in such an embargo for the first time.

In his article in *The Times* on Monday, Zbigniew Brzezinski warned that the Soviet Union would make a "giant geopolitical gain if it joined some formal collective action against Iraq". That is true, but if we are to make the UN work effectively in the new era, we must be ready to accept Soviet involvement. Similarly we must co-operate with China, whose willingness to vote for action against Iraq shows a welcome readiness to play an active role in the UN.

Iraq too may decide to co-operate with the UN. It stands to gain by increasing its oil output and from higher prices. In the process it may return from isolation, bringing greater stability to the region.

For all these reasons, President Bush would do well to promote a complete maritime blockade, rather than the far more inflammatory course of expecting Saudi Arabia to interfere with its pipeline.

Military orders in civilian clothing bring down Benazir

Tariq Ali explains how the Pakistani prime minister's naive exuberance could provide no match against the hard-nosed men of the army

General Aslam Beg, the leader of Pakistan's strongest political formation, and the chief of army staff, stated bluntly on July 1: "We do not believe in chasing shadows. We believe in battering at the root cause of evil and eliminating it for once and for all." At the time he was assumed to be referring to the perpetrators of violence in the southern province of Sind, but such an assumption now seems to have been wishful thinking.

The removal of Benazir Bhutto and her elected government by the Pakistan army's birthday present to the nation, which will celebrate the 43rd year of its existence next week. The dismissal may have been implemented by President Ghulam Ishaque Khan, but the rebels undoubtedly emanated from the military GHQ in Rawalpindi, and a green light was clearly visible in the State Department in Washington. What we have been witnessing in Islamabad over the last few days is a military intervention in civilian clothing.

Why was Benazir Bhutto's regime toppled? The reasons provided by Ghulam Ishaq Khan centre on the charge of corruption and nepotism, but if this were so, why was the evidence not shown to Pakistan's parliament? Accusations concerning the prime minister's husband, Asif Zardari, have been floated around for more than a year, and Miss Bhutto has consistently asked to be shown the evidence. Even if Zardari is corrupt, it is hardly a reason for overthrowing an entire government. It is well known that during the military dictatorship of General Zia, corruption linked to the heroin mafia reached new heights. There were some who alleged that great personal and family rewards were reaped by Ghulam Ishaq (who was then a loyal supporter of the dictatorship and a minister in successive Zia governments). If corruption were sufficient to re-

move governments, Pakistan would have been without an administration from 1962 onwards, and the army's high command would have been permanently debarred from holding political office.

Benazir Bhutto's election victory in November 1988 took the high command by surprise. Inter-service intelligence had poured in massive funds to aid the anti-Bhutto forces, and they believed that voters could be bought on the free market. So confident was the army, that a few weeks before the election General Beg assured a meeting of officers from a special commando unit in Nawabshah that the People's Party would lose and the "two ladies" (Benazir and her mother Nusrat Bhutto) would be encouraged to settle indefinitely in Europe. When the right-wing parties failed to secure a majority, the army chiefs were won over by Washington to tolerate a Bhutto regime.

For her part, the new prime minister was forced to accept two vital pillars of the *ancien régime*: Ishaq Khan as president and Sahibzada Yakub as foreign minister.

Both men remain in place to face the turbulent times ahead. Thus the People's Party government was compromised from the very beginning.

A more experienced and astute politician, surrounded by even wiser and older heads, might have outmanoeuvred the uniforms, but it would not have been easy.

Benazir's team initially generated a great deal of enthusiasm, but a naive exuberance could not compete with the hard-nosed men of the army and the civil bureaucracy — the two institutions which have had *de facto* power in Pakistan since its inception in 1947.

The People's Party often gave the appearance of being interested only in power and jockeying for key positions in government and state, and in access to lucrative



import/export licences. Benazir Bhutto never presented a reform programme to parliament. Her excuse was that it would have been defeated by a combined opposition.

Although the Bhutto government did little to annoy the army — indeed went so far as to accept the GHQ line of backing the most recalcitrant wing of the Afghan rebels — it created a democratic ambience which irritated the generals. All political prisoners were released, and the press in Pakistan was given total freedom. The country's three preceding military dictatorships were roundly condemned in government publications. The Bhutto government refused to implement the Sharif Bill the sole function of which was

to use the obscurantist cloak of religion to diminish further the position of women in Pakistan. Unable to satisfy the aspirations of her supporters Benazir Bhutto fed them on democratic rhetoric. Even this was considered unacceptable by the army power brokers.

Matters came to a head in the province of Sind, where the People's Party won an overwhelming electoral majority. Karachi, the largest city in the country, was torn by ethnic violence instigated by the heroin mafia. This predicated Benazir Bhutto's election victory, but the violence escalated last year when a conservative ethnic formation, the MQM, decided to make the province ungovernable. Sindi national-

ists responded in kind, and the People's Party government was caught in the crossfire. The army demanded the right to set up military courts and administer summary justice. Benazir Bhutto, remembering the similar events in the Baloch province which led to the coup against her father in 1977, refused the request. The generals have responded by removing her from office.

Perhaps in other circumstances Washington would have prohibited any such move, but the present critical situation in the Gulf requires the stability of the Pakistani armed forces. Several Pakistani military divisions have been leased to Saudi Arabia, and if Saddam Hussein moved towards Riyadh, more would be needed. The Pakistani army has been an important part of US strategy for defending the status quo in the Persian Gulf. In the past, whenever they have been compelled to choose between an elected government and the army, the United States has backed the army. The events of this week, alas, have proved no exception.

President Ishaq has promised fresh elections on October 24, but the dice are loaded. Politicians rejected by the electorate have been appointed to head a new caretaker government. The new prime minister, Mustafa Jatoi, was badly defeated by the votes of his own peasants in Sind. He was elected to parliament to represent a rotten borough in the Punjab, owned by his friend Mian Ishaq Khar, who Khar has now been repaid by being given with a cabinet post. So much for the fight against nepotism.

Veteran acolytes of the late General Zia have been appointed governors in strategic provinces, such as the industrialist Mahmud Haroon in Sind. The plan is obvious. The opposition failed to defeat Bhutto with a vote of no confidence in parliament. It has now been handed power by the army. If it looks incapable of winning an election in October, there is little doubt that the polls will be postponed and then, if necessary, postponed again. It does not augur well for democracy in Pakistan or for peace in South Asia.

Tariq Ali is a writer and broadcaster

FO spokesman. "The application would have been dealt with at senior official or ministerial level."

Which official? Which minister? Not a matter for discussion, replied the spokesman. This has infuriated Tory MPs who are demanding an investigation.

David Howell, chairman of the Commons select committee on foreign affairs, said: "Ministers could have said that no ambassadors should leave their posts. When I was in Cairo in April there was a feeling that given the ruthless ambition of Hussein, and that he was determined to be the Mr Big in the Middle East, he should have been taken seriously. But I was surprised in London to find that feeling had been discounted. It's very galling."

More to the point, those sceptical of ever rising MI6 expenditure are wondering what its Middle East operation was doing in Baghdad. Ambassadors always see intelligence messages sent home. The departure of Mr Walker is a sure sign that no such message warning of an invasion was sent. The only consolation is that the CIA also let their ambassador leave Iraq.

Ever since the appearance of the first world war Kitchener army recruitment poster, advertising agencies have sought novel ways of persuading young men to join the forces. Last week Collett Dickenson Pearce, the agency that handles the army's account, produced an eye-catching dummy which was rejected before it reached the Ministry of Defence. Why? It featured a picture of Saddam Hussein.

Net assets

The announcement of Sir

Geoffrey Owen's retirement

from the editor's chair at the

Financial Times prompts the

retired journalist to make a

confession. In his first years

he baffled colleagues by insisting

on taking leave every June, what

ever international crisis might

happen to be raging.

After I never got beyond the second round," confesses Owen, "which is why I decided to stick



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GAINING WHITE CONFIDENCE

The dissolution of apartheid continued this week with the suspension by the African National Congress of its "armed struggle" against the South African state. After last year's peaceful anti-communist revolutions in Europe, the ANC would have been foolish to cling doggedly to an obsolete communist model of violent revolution. By opting instead to follow the examples of Lech Walesa and Vaclav Havel, Nelson Mandela has shown that his long imprisonment has not left him a mental prisoner of the past. He has fulfilled the proper conditions for a constitutional "round table" and hence called the bluff which the ANC's armed struggle had become to South Africa's whites.

President F. W. de Klerk has at last been given some return for his concessions to Mr Mandela to offer his recalcitrant right-wing opponents: evidence that the ANC can renounce violence. The armed struggle had become a shibboleth for both sides, and had to be consigned to oblivion before they could plunge into serious politics. "War is nothing but a continuation of politics with the admixture of other means," wrote Clausewitz. That maxim can now be reversed. Black/white politics in South Africa must become the continuation of a kind of war by other means.

That said, neither of these remarkable antagonists can yet congratulate himself. They are only approaching the starting post of a race for political supremacy. Nobody can pretend that the formal "armed struggle" was the true cause of past black/white mistrust. The Boer tribal ideology of apartheid itself was a rationalisation of fear, and this fear cannot lightly be dismissed, even as the rigidities of apartheid are steadily broken down.

The fear is the fear not of black rule as such. It is fear of anarchy, of insecurity, of corruption and crass incompetence which white South Africans see realised everywhere in black Africa to the north. A British prime minister, Balfour, may have spoken quaintly when he declared in 1909 that equal rights for South African blacks would threaten white civilisation.

MIGRANT TRIBES OF EUROPE

Eastern Europe is on the move. In their tens of millions, undaunted by queues for visas which can take a year or more, they are coming: Poles, Hungarians, Romanians, Bulgarians, Czechs, Yugoslavs, now even Albanians. They are moving west, just as some of their forebears did, for the oldest and best of reasons: to earn their fortunes. Many work seasonally as "tourists" and return home with hard currency savings as a hedge against inflation. Some do not return, but will cherish memories of the old country through generations as yet unborn. For the present, they are grateful to work in the West, quite often at the menial of wealthy descendants of previous waves of emigrants.

Yet the West is reluctant to open wide its doors. Less liberal in this matter than the despised Victorians, modern democracies are reluctant to permit another great migration from the East like those of the 19th century or the Dark Ages. The exception - West Germany - proves the rule. Bonn has accepted the word of anybody who can produce even a vestige of evidence of German ancestry. But these "resettlers", who may eventually number several million, are tolerated only because they are, in some ill-defined ethnic sense, Germans. Dormant xenophobia is awakened in Germany too where Poles are concerned.

The British, like the Americans, have been criticised for failing to relax their requirements for entry from Eastern Europe. Tourist visas are no longer needed by Hungarians or Czechs in several Western European states. British consuls not only insist upon visas, but issue them only on strict conditions, and charge relatively high fees for them. American officials still want to know whether the applicant was ever a communist: under the circumstances, an invitation to dishonesty.

Despite these deliberately restrictive policies, the Anglo-Saxon countries continue to be popular destinations for these migrant workers. English is the foreign language spoken by the young. The United States, Britain and

tion. But it has been the violence of the townships and particularly in Natal, far more than the organised efforts of the ANC's "military wing", that has unnerved whites to the point where even moderates have backed drastic emergency measures. That fear of anarchy must be removed if Mr Mandela and the moderate wing of the ANC are to find in Mr de Klerk a white leader capable of delivering even a share, let alone a totality, of political power.

The ANC leaders should now follow the renouncing of violence - in so far as it is within their power - by reasserting the movement's Christian and pacifist roots, rather than the Marxism-Leninism introduced into its culture, largely in exile, by the South African Communist Party. Mr Mandela calls himself a socialist, but socialism is a grim reaper of African freedoms. It is no way to unify the disparate groups that must be reassured by the ANC's message, especially if the ANC is to carry any credibility with the Asian, coloured and Zulu groups on whose behalf it is presuming to negotiate in its dealings with Mr de Klerk.

The ANC has to convince South Africans that it can engage in a relevant political debate, can make genuine concessions and keep its word. It needs an economic programme dating from 1990, not 1960 (let alone 1860). It needs a democratic leadership capable of imposing its discipline and authority, notably in Natal. However glamorous Mr Mandela may be considered outside South Africa, to the whites there he is still an unknown quantity. The risk is not that Mr Mandela will be loathed as an extremist, but that he may be dismissed as an amateur. Nowhere could he do more to strengthen his standing throughout South Africa than by pacifying Natal. As the most fateful dialogue in South African history begins, Mr Mandela must convince his countrymen that the reasonableness he has shown by abandoning violence is typical, not untypical, of his people.

MIGRANT TRIBES OF EUROPE

Canada all have established networks of East European exiles. Those who have lived under communism often find the more *laissez faire* culture of Britain and America preferable to the legal traditions of countries geographically and psychologically closer to their own. This preference is nothing to complain of.

If the European Community is widened to include central Europe, as Mrs Thatcher advocated so warmly at Aspen last Sunday, all member states (and others which treat all Community citizens alike) will have to adapt their immigration laws to the new circumstances. East European immigration is now a fact of life for the West.

Capitalism will indeed raise living standards in former communist economies; but as the phoney jobs are eliminated by market forces, anything up to a quarter of the workforce may become redundant for years to come. In East Germany unemployment is reported to have reached one million, 14 per cent of the workforce. The enterprise will in any case want to work in high-wage economies. On the Continent and in America they are already competing for jobs with non-European immigrants and guest workers. There is dangerous potential here for future ethnic tension.

The large pool of skilled labour in Eastern Europe should be recognized as a blessing for the West, not feared as a threat. The way to keep the influx within bounds is for the Community to allow free trade with its eastern neighbours, for the latter to relax the remaining restrictions on western investment, and for the lifting of visa restrictions on East Europeans to be accompanied by a vigorous attempt to ensure that those who do work in Community countries also pay taxes there. Guest workers who discharge their obligations to their hosts are entitled to be treated with respect. With the legalisation of the existing black market in labour between East and West, the European Community faces an important test.

It should at last be obvious that

World enforcement of economic sanctions on Iraq

From Mr Leo Scheiner

Sir, The United Nations sanctions, which will inevitably be backed by the US military effort and blockade, should not be seeking to cut off the flow of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil. Surely the object is not to prevent oil production but that Iraq should not benefit from it.

The US and their allies who will be policing the Gulf region in order to enforce the will of the UN should announce that they will seize any oil of Iraqi or Kuwaiti origin - anywhere on the high seas - in order to sell it immediately on the spot market. The funds thus realised could be placed in blocked Iraqi or Kuwaiti accounts.

Of course such action may cause Iraq to cut production, but it would then be their decision and the result of US action rather than giving Saddam Hussein any pretext for attacking vulnerable countries such as Turkey or Saudi Arabia. Additionally, it could provide a downside for any possible sanctions-busting shipping of oil.

Such a policy might also provide some immediate relief in the speculative pressure which is forcing oil prices up since it will no longer be assumed that the entire Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil production will never reach the consumer.

Yours faithfully,
LEO SCHEINER
(Managing director),
Protosol Ltd.,
PO Box 582,
London W9 2QL
August 7

From Mr Patrick O'Brien

Sir, We should be grateful to Iraq for dispelling the euphoria in Europe following the collapse of the Eastern bloc. Iraq has brought the following facts to our attention:

1. Iraq is the strongest military power in the Middle East, except perhaps Israel which has an atomic bomb, but that will only be used in defence.

2. Iraq has the strength to take over the whole Arabian peninsula which has the oil reserves which supply virtually all Europe's oil and half that of the USA.

3. Most other main oil exporters (Libya, Indonesia, Iran) are also Muslim countries.

4. The USA is the only power which could stop Iraq but Iraq could destroy the oil fields if attacked after taking over Arabia.

5. Britain is the only country in Europe temporarily self-sufficient in oil.

6. Britain is the only EC country which has defence forces permanently in the Arabian peninsula (French naval patrols are only intermittent), yet it is our European allies whose vital supplies are threatened. Britain is quite unable to match Iraq militarily on her own.

It should at last be obvious that

Mother tongue

From Mr David Green

Sir, The Welsh language (leading article, July 21; report, July 23; letters, July 30, August 2, 3) will only survive if non-speakers, native and immigrant to Wales, adopt it. Existing first-language Welsh families cannot sustain a base large enough to secure its continuity. Their children, and particularly their bright children, must also leave Wales for employment.

Welsh is the last viable remnant of the great Celtic languages of Europe, but its extinction would transcend cultural tragedy. The surviving Welsh-speaking communities possess the only natural European-language bilingualism in the United Kingdom; and Britain is too poor linguistically to be able to afford to lose them.

It is no accident that linguists upon whom we now depend often have Welsh origins: it is a great deal easier to learn two languages if you learn them in a bilingual community, and a great deal easier to learn more once you have two.

Preserving this linguistic resource which, against odds, has survived in Wales is therefore everyone's concern; but so, too, now is its preservation against its most forthright custodians. Their intentions are admirable; but if they are allowed to turn themselves upon the language by confining Welsh to existing Welsh-speakers then they will suffocate it.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN.

Rhyd y Harding, Castle Morris,
Nr Hawarden, Dyfed.

Sixth-form skills

From Professor Stewart Ranson

Sir, In its report, "A British Baccalaureate", the Institute for Public Policy Research provides an excellent analysis of and stimulus to debate upon one of the most complex, contentious areas of our education system - provision for 16 to 19-year-olds. The report challenges its readers to question traditional assumptions and reach out for new solutions.

It makes clear the deep dilemma facing our society: without a radical extension of high-quality education many 16 to 19-year-olds will be denied that foundation of learning required for entry to the new high-tech labour market while the economy will be deprived of an adequately prepared work force.

The scale of this predicament will, it is argued, demand fundamental change, not only in the way our institutions of education and training are designed to meet the needs of the age group but also, more significantly, in the very

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

World enforcement of economic sanctions on Iraq

From Dr Kamal T Faris

Sir, Your leader, "Iraq's naked villainy" (August 3) fails to underline two very important points:

1. The disappearance of "a small sovereign nation" is precisely what the majority of the Arab people long for. The Arabs' dream of a united nation from the Nile to the Euphrates has come a step closer by the recent Iraqi action.

2. Most ordinary Arabs loathe the white-robed medieval relics of days gone by and whilst they may not necessarily love Saddam Hussein's own personal ambitions and methods, they fully support him in his drive towards their wider goal of Arab unity.

After all, let us not forget the all-important historical precedent within the Middle East context, that the prophet Muhammad himself used the "sword" to spread his message and to unite disparate nations under the new state of Islam.

I remain, Sir, yours etc.,
KAMAL T. FARIS,
119 Gladys Road,
Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

From Squadron Leader L. R. De Thier

Sir, In June, 1961, when Iraq

massed troops on the Kuwait border with the intention of

invading the sheikhdom, Beverley

aircraft of Nos. 53, 30 and 84

squadrons airlifted the British Army's strategic reserve, its Ferret tanks and Saracen armoured cars, plus men and supporting equipment for six squadrons of Royal Air Force Hunters and Canberra

into Kuwait under "Operation Vantage" and the Iraqis backed down and went home.

Is there now no replacement for the Pax Britannica which so successfully deterred aggression of this sort?

Yours faithfully,
L. R. DE THIER,
6 Victoria Road,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

From Mr Duncan Grant

Sir, Are we to believe that we have been so naïve as to allow our own military personnel to remain in their homes awaiting collection by the Iraqis?

Surely we realise that the Iraqi intelligence would have been only too well aware of the presence of British military advisers in Kuwait.

It is inconceivable that there appears to have been no master plan to ensure the safety of such obviously high-profile personnel. We are now faced with an unnecessary and acutely embarrassing military hostage impasse, on top of a volatile and dangerous situation, resulting from what appears to have been a particularly negligent oversight.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN GRANT,
10 The Quadrangle,
Chelsea Harbour, SW10.

Friendly neighbouring states should not claim each other's territory.

It is a misake, however, to believe that Northern Ireland is as British as Finchley. Its history, cultures and political complexities are quite different from England. Devolution worked after a fashion for 50 years. It could be made to work again, with the border issue removed and with added safeguards, such as a bill of rights and proportional representation.

Alternatively, it might be possible to agree on an elected regional council or on a system of cantons. It is asking for trouble to suggest that Northern Irish counties should answer directly to Westminster.

Given the existence of a large Unionist majority, it is intolerable that the republic should have maintained its claim and means must be found to remove it.

Yours faithfully,
HYLTON,
House of Lords.

August 2.

Population control

From Mr J. B. Da Silva

Sir, In his book *The Next Million Years*, first published in 1952, the late Sir Charles Darwin drew attention to the dangers of overpopulation referred to in Sir Graham Hills's letter (July 30). At a population conference in Rome two years later his views were ridiculed by the Roman Catholic Church (wanting more souls for the glorification of God) and by representatives of the Soviet Union (wanting, I suppose, a larger industrial labour force).

Given the existence of a large Unionist majority, it is intolerable that the republic should have maintained its claim and means must be found to remove it.

With exponential growth world population should double to around 10 billion by the middle of

the next century. This was thought by Darwin and others to be the maximum sustainable number. What is going to happen when it is reached?

He also believed the likely consequences during this period of growth would be the formation of competing power blocks (rather than some form of world government which he thought bound to be unacceptable authoritarian) and mass emigration and resentment from over-populated areas.

This seems already to have begun.

Yours truly,
JOHN DA SILVA,
Copse Close,
Virginia Water, Surrey.

July 31.

boldly in debate.

A modern curriculum for 16 to 19 should strive to explore the interdependence of theory and practice, placing knowledge at the service of society and the environment upon which it depends. The notion of core skills for this age group is currently being promoted by the National Curriculum Council.

Moreover, the best sixth forms already recognise the need to broaden their prospective university entrants: foundation studies and service to the community help to build the understanding, skills and social confidence welcomed by employers and admission tutors alike.

The challenge of the day is to extend excellence in education. This report presents a vision to this end and should not lightly be dismissed.

Yours etc.,

STEWART RANSON,
The University of Birmingham,
School of Education,
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - (071) 782 5046.

Battered wives slow to sue

From Mr R. M. Napier

Sir, I write with reference to your leading article, "Wives are not punchbags" (August 1), as a solicitor having much experience of divorce and domestic violence work. By its very nature most domestic violence takes place in private with no witnesses other than the actual parties concerned, plus all too frequently young children whom one does not wish to involve in a dispute between their parents.

Further, it is well known in the profession that "the more they hit them, the more they go back". Around 30 per cent of all women who telephone my firm for an initial appointment, even if arrangements are made to see them within 24 hours, fail to keep their appointment. They have obviously reconciled.

For those who do come in, very often extensive work is required, normally with legal aid assistance, but approximately 25 per cent of these will call proceedings off before they have even reached court. Even with the cases which go to court, and where an injunction is granted, approximately 40 per cent then reconcile within a few weeks.

Very often clients present themselves bearing very visible evidence of their injuries, demanding an injunction. One has to point out that an injunction does not in itself prevent a further assault, but many clients are reluctant to do anything which might risk their husband appearing in the magistrate's court.

The Crown Prosecution Service has the not infrequent galling experience, in those cases where prosecution has started, of having their most essential witness either refuse to give evidence, or say that their injuries were inflicted by accident.

It is very easy to understand the attitude of the police, particularly when they are called to the same warring couples week after week and all suggestions that one or the other should go



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE August 7: Mr Harold Walker (Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Baghdad) and Mrs Walker were received by The Queen.

Mr Graham Boyce (Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Doha) and Mrs Boyce were received by The Queen.

Commodore Robert Woodward was received by Her Majesty upon his appointment as Flag Officer Royal Yachts.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

Princess Beatrice of York is two today.

Birthdays today

Professor Jack Baldwin, chemist, 52; Lord Campbell of Eskan, 78; Sir Joseph Cantley, former High Court Judge, 80; Lord Chapple, 69; Vice-Admiral Commander-in-Chief, Sir Barney Hayhoe, MP, 65; Mr Duster Hoffman, actor, 53; Lieutenant-General Sir David House, 68; Mr Nigel Mansell, racing driver, 37; Sir Alan Muir Wood, civil engineer, 69; Sir Patrick Neill QC, former vice-chairman, Oxford University, 64; Sir Denning Pearson, former chairman, Rolls-Royce, 82; Professor Roger Penrose, mathematician, 59; Lord Tramore, 87; Mr Justice Wood, 68; Professor John Yudkin, nutritionist, 80.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jacques de Beauvois, theologian, Rouen, 1653; William Bateson, biologist, Whitchurch, 1861; F.A.M. Durac, physicist, Nobel laureate 1931, Bristol, 1902.

DEATHS: Thomas à Kempis, theologian, Aegeneberg, The Netherlands, 1471; George Canning, prime minister 1827, London, 1827; Lucas Mathews, known as Madama Vesuvia, actress, London, 1856; Robert Moffat, missionary, Leigh, Surrey, 1883; Jacob Burckhardt, historian, Basel, 1897; Anton Denikin, commander of the anti-Bolshevik forces in the Russian Civil War 1918-20, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1947.

The English Poor Law Act was passed, 1834. The Great Train Robbery - £2.6m stolen from the Glasgow-London train at Cheddington, Buckinghamshire, 1963. President Nixon resigned as a result of the Watergate affair, 1974.

Appointment

Mr Tony Hall, Editor, News and Current Affairs, BBC Television, to be the BBC's Director of News and Current Affairs in succession to Mr Ian Hargreaves.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. Alston and Mrs S.E. Rich. The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ralph Alston, of Anglesey, and Sara Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr Michael Rich QC, and Mrs Rich, of Dulwich, London.

Mr H.E. Asten and Miss M.L.M. Cole. The engagement is announced between Henry Edward, eldest son of Dr and Mrs J.H.M. Asten, of Belper Road, Derby, and Miranda Louise MacLeod, younger daughter of the Rev J.S. and Mrs Cole, of Modbury Vicarage, South Devon.

Mr M.V. Gale and Miss R.P.A. Fuller. The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr and Mrs V.E. Gale, of Watlington, Oxfordshire, and Rowena, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.P. Fuller, of Barnes, London.

Mr T. J. Joiner and The Hon. Sarah Gardner. The engagement is announced between Tim, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Joiner, of Glaston Wood, Wetherhamstead, Herefordshire, and Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr. Kevin Gardner and Baroness Gardner, of Parkes, of Knightsbridge, London.

Mr C.M.M. Le Morvan and Miss T.K. Wheeler. The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of M. Michel Le Morvan, of Versailles, France and Mme Jean Krounba, of Le Chesnay, France, and Tanya, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Wheeler, of Sly Corner, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.

Mr A.J. Murley and Miss S.L. Wedd. The engagement is announced between Anthony Jonathan, youngest son of Sir Reginald and Lady Murley, of Radlett, Hertfordshire, and Sarah Lavinia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Wedd, of Luton, Cambridgeshire.

Prince's paintings to aid cathedral

AN EXHIBITION of paintings by the Prince of Wales is to go on show in Wiltshire next month to help raise money for Salisbury Cathedral.

The exhibition will be the first opportunity for the British public to see a large collection of the prince's work. It is expected to include about 50 of his watercolours and lithographs.

Buckingham Palace said the prince will open the exhibition at the Courtauld and Courcier Gallery in Salisbury on September 5. "It is a great honour, and we are very excited," Ian Courcier, the gallery owner, said. "I don't think there has been a major exhibition of his work in Britain before."

The prince, an enthusiastic and talented amateur artist, had a show of watercolours in Urbino, Italy, earlier this year. The forthcoming exhibition, like the one in Urbino, is expected to include several paintings from his travels around the world.

None of the works will be for sale, but a new lithograph made from the prince's watercolour of Windsor Castle is expected to be on offer, Mr Courcier said.

Purchase of a £2.50 catalogue will gain entry to the exhibition and proceeds will go to the Salisbury Cathedral Trust, of which the prince is president. The trust is trying to raise more than £6 million for restoration work.

OBITUARIES

JACQUES SOUSTELLE

Jacques Soustelle, ethnologist, close aide of de Gaulle during the second world war and supporter of the French settlers after serving as Governor-General in Algeria from 1955 to 1956, died aged 78 on August 6. He was born on February 3, 1912.

AMONG the most gifted Gaulists in French politics of the 1940s and 1950s, Jacques Soustelle, though an intellectual, had the reputation of a man of action, particularly of underground action. In a career of spectacular twists and turns this was to include, under the Fifth Republic, his fierce opposition to de Gaulle over Algeria. Joining de Gaulle in London in 1940, he became director of the secret services of the French National Committee in 1943.

Appointed governor-general of Algeria as the settlers rebelled against Paris, Soustelle was one of the chief figures whose efforts brought down the Fourth Republic and returned de Gaulle to power in 1958. That year Algerian terrorists made an attempt to assassinate Soustelle in Paris. His intense dislike, however, of de Gaulle's policy towards Algeria led him to sympathise with the extreme right-wing OAS, though he consistently denied any outright association. He was charged with subversive activities against the state in 1962 and went into exile for several years. He returned to France in 1968 and enjoyed a reinstatement in both political and academic terms.

Jacques Emile Soustelle was born at Montpellier, southwestern France, but spent most of his childhood in the working class districts of Lyons. The family was Protestant. He was an exceptionally brilliant student, being received at the age of 17 at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, becoming an agrégé at 20, and obtaining a doctorate for a thesis on the fundamental bases of sociology at the age of 23. In the immediate pre-war years he was assistant director of the Musée de l'Homme under Jacques Rivet. He already enjoyed a high reputation as a specialist in Aztec culture.

A supporter of the 1936 Popular Front, Soustelle was a prominent member of the self-styled vigilance committee of French intellectuals which collaborated closely with the communists. Though maintaining a left-wing position, Soustelle broke with the communists after Vichy.

He was on an official mission to Mexico as an ethnologist in the summer of 1940, But it was too late and in the



but reached London that September and fell immediately under the spell of the leader of the Free French, a spell which was to last for almost 20 years. De Gaulle first sent Soustelle back to Latin America on a propaganda mission for his cause and then, on Soustelle's return to London, charged him with heading the information services of the Free French. In Algeria in 1943 he became director of the secret services in de Gaulle's provisional government as minister for the colonies.

When de Gaulle disbanded the People's Rally in 1952 Soustelle, who had been its secretary-general, led the faithful rump of 74 Gaulist deputies. His group supported the Mende-France government of 1954 and several Gaulists took office. Soustelle was nominated governor-general of Algeria in January 1955, the turning point of his later life. He was badly received by the French Algerians (it was rumoured that he was a Jew and that his real name was Ben Susan) but the Algerian nationalists who had not yet joined the National Liberation Front considered him rather more sympathetically. Soustelle attempted a programme of drastic social reforms to win back the local Muslim population.

He succeeded in getting most of the leaders of the Europeans to back a campaign for the integration of Algeria with metropolitan France, with a promise of equality for Muslims as French citizens. This was a doctrine once held by the French left but which had been continuously contested by the settlers. Soustelle became the most popular governor-general of Algeria and on his replacement in 1956 the entire settler community of Europeans demonstrated its regret.

In the then Fourth Republic Soustelle, whose party was reduced to 22, became, with Georges Bidault, leader of the last-ditch supporters of French Algeria. He helped to overthrow two governments. After the fall of the last, there was a delay of two months before Pierre Pflimlin was appointed premier on the night of May 13, 1958. The army and settler revolt began

in Algeria. Confined to his house by order of the new government, Soustelle managed to escape from Paris in the boot of a car, arriving in Algiers via Switzerland, a few days later. His presence gave the appearance of the identification of the revolt with Gaulism. Soustelle threw in his hand with Generals Salan and Massu heading a putsch attempt against Paris.

In July 1958 de Gaulle returned to power, made him minister of information, but office proved short-lived and by 1960 he was expelled from the Gaulist party and in active opposition to self-determination for Algeria. In 1962 warrants were issued against him and Bidault for conspiracy against the security of the state in connection with the activities of a banned National Council of Resistance. Although Paris did not demand his extradition, he lived an uncomfortable life between Belgium, Italy, Spain, Portugal and elsewhere. For a time he hid his identity in Italy under the name of Senneca. He was willing to accept the aid of the John Birch Society in his disgust at de Gaulle's betrayal of French Algerians.

Under an amnesty law Soustelle returned to France in October 1968 to a virtual hero's welcome. By 1971 he had launched a new political party called Progress and Liberty. His political reinstatement came with election first to Lyons city council and then to the national assembly by 1973. In 1983 he secured the ultimate ambition of many French intellectuals and was elected to the French academy alongside Leopold Senghor, the former president of Senegal.

There remains some mystery about his personal relations with de Gaulle who seemed always to have reservations about his one-time principal lieutenant. Significantly perhaps, he was never made a Companion of the Liberation. Soustelle held the Rosette of the Resistance, the Legion of Honour and he was an honorary CBE. He had a number of British friends and many acquaintances from the wartime years.

Among Soustelle's works were *The Daily Life of the Aztecs on the Eve of the Spanish Conquest* (in French 1955, in English translation 1961), *The Four Sun* (French 1968, English 1971), *Envers et Contre-Tour* (two volumes of his war-time memoirs with de Gaulle), *Aimée et Souffrance Algérie et L'Espérance trahie*, an indictment of de Gaulle which he had published in 1962.

NORMAN MACLEAN

Norman Fitzroy Maclean, Harper Professor of English Literature at the University of Chicago from 1962 to 1972, died aged 87 in Chicago on August 2. He was born in Iowa on December 23, 1902.

A combative man, Norman Maclean's greatest achievement was undoubtedly as a teacher at the University of Chicago, where there is now a scholarship named after him. His other claim to importance lies in the fact that he was closely associated with, although not in the vanguard of, the influential school called the Chicago Critics.

Maclean, son of a donnatic and eccentric Scots Presbyterian minister, grew up in

western Montana. This father, as becomes clear from Maclean's fictionalised autobiography, *A River Runs Through It* (1976), was as devoted to fishing as he was to God — or, rather, he saw the latter in the former and the former in the latter. Thus Maclean was schooled in every aspect of fishing.

He was educated at Dartmouth College, which he mostly disliked and where he felt out of place. He worked every summer as a ranger in Montana, and even considered taking up a career in the national forest service. But eventually he opted for teaching, and began his long career at Chicago in 1928.

There he became associated with R. S. Crane, Richard McKeon, Elder Olson and others, and was eventually an important contributor to the famous *Critics and Criticism: Ancient and Modern* (1952), a collection of essays edited by Crane. The Chicago Critics, influenced by Aristotle, fruitfully concentrated — unlike the so-called New Critics — on the difference between genres and also on the relationship between criticism and the humanities. Maclean, not a man to whom writing came naturally, employed the methodology of this school in his teaching.

Maclean had married the former Jessie Burns, by whom he had two sons, in 1931. Her death in 1968 shattered him;

but he eventually recovered himself by labouring at an essentially autobiographical work, *A River Runs Through It*, two long stories connected by a third, shorter one dealing with the western Montana of his childhood and with the characters of his father and his brother, Paul, a drinker and gambler who was murdered in a Chicago alley in 1938.

The resulting book was much valued by those who knew Maclean for the insights it gave into his character. It is too closely influenced by Hemingway to be totally successful. But it remains an interesting work of autobiography by a teacher whom many have good cause to remember with gratitude.

PAT WALL

Pat Wall, Labour MP for Bradford North, died on August 6 aged 57. He had been ill with chest problems for some time. He was born on May 6, 1933.

AN OUTSPOKEN left-winger, who continued to declare his support for fundamentalist revolutionary socialism long after it had become heresy to breath such notions in the Labour party's councils. Pat Wall was controversial long before he became Labour's member for Bradford North in 1987. A founding father of Militant Tendency he had been a thorn in Labour's side from the early 1980s. In 1981 he joined the party's then leader, Michael Foot, in splitting the Bradford North constituency, accomplishing the deselection of the sitting MP, Benjamin Ford, in the process. Later he was forced to distance himself from Militant as the price of having his candidacy for the 1987 general election endorsed by the party's national executive committee. But the purity of his vision of socialism remained unassilled by Labour's recent policy volte-face. Only last year he wrote to the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, to tell him that "a return to capitalism will not benefit the workers in any part of the Soviet Union.... only a socialist planned economy based on full workers' democracy can offer any solution."

In his letter Mr Wall went on to advise Mr Gorbachev that he had "no alternative but to return to the policies and methods of Lenin."

Charles Patrick Wall was born in Liverpool. He left grammar school at 16 and worked as a laboratory assistant analysing cattle fodder and then as a stock controller before becoming a buyer for a mail order firm. He joined the Labour party the year after leaving school and for a time was a member of Liverpool city council. Later he became active in west Yorkshire, where he served on Bingley urban district council, and in 1973 became president of Bradford trades council. He became an ardent follower of Trotsky and worldwide revolutionary marxism — though he saw the spread of this in terms of the battle for minds and not as a matter of military conquest. When the appearance of *Militant*, a marxist newspaper produced in a Hackney backstreet, spawned a movement of the same name within the Labour party Wall became one of its early supporters.

The battle within the Labour party between moderates and the left was at its height, with fear of the malign influence of Militant Tendency widespread, when, in 1981, the Bradford North constituency party deselected its sitting MP, Ben Ford, and selected instead Pat Wall. The new candidate was quite clear in his own mind that the only plausible Labour response to the nascent Social Democrat party then threatening Labour's credibility as the

BISHOP FLEMING

Colin Jenkins writes

at the college and around the world are legion.

The college's multi-cultural, multi-religious student body is in no way intimidated this Anglican bishop. In turn his Christian beliefs were never discernible, as he showed kindness and thoughtfulness to Muslim, Buddhist or atheist alike. Atlantic College has lost a very dear friend.

The work was skilful, sensitive and detailed with a tremendous sense of rhythm. And the poet brought to life some of the disastrous events of the eighties like the Toxteth and Brixton riots," said Mr Alan Llywd who has previously won the nationalised Eisteddfod and chair.

The poem, inspired by the work of novelist Bruce Chatwin, looked at the decade from 1979 to 1989 in a series of poems he wrote at various times.

He knitted them together for the crown competition which this year attracted a record 45 entries. The judges,

Church of Scotland

Deaths

The Rev Kenneth H. Fisher of Edgbaston died on Saturday, December 16, left estate valued at £258,392 net. As her husband did not survive her by 30 days she left her estate to her son the 12th Earl of Droghead.

The Rev Austin U. Erskine of St Mary's, Banff, died on Saturday, December 16, left estate valued at £276,561 net.

Mr Michael John Brooks, of London, SW13, chartered surveyor, left estate valued at £1,073,991 net.

Translations

The Rev Austin U. Erskine from Craigend Moncrieffe; linked with Rhind, Perth.

The Rev Charles S. Morris from Mauchline.

The Rev Roderick McLeod from Lochwinnoch.

The Rev Thomas Thomson from Leith Wardie, Edinburgh.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

God says, 'I will save those who love me and will protect those who acknowledge me as their God.' Psalm 91: 14 C.N.B.

BIRTHS

BOINETTE-BOYCE - On June 19th 1990, a daughter, Clémie Camille, was born and loving parents, Camille and Clémie. Grandparents, Jean-Pierre, Jean, and Mavis. God bless her.

BRONCOTT - On July 27th 1990, to Marlene (de) Epeé and André, a son, James Anthony.

BLAIN - On August 6th, at The Portland Hospital, London, Sophie (de) Andrade and Daniel, a daughter, Clodagh, a sister for Edward and Thomas.

BLAIN - On August 5th, to Christopher and Daniel, a son, James Andrew.

BUTTON - On September 1st, to Sally (de) Herring) and Richard, a brother, Robert, a son, David.

BUCHANAN - On August 4th, Neil, Loving husband, father and grandfather. Funeral by private cremation. No flowers, donations if desired to The National Trust may be sent to C/o Fuller & Scott, The Royal Exchange, 100 Pall Mall, London SW1. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Church, Uxbridge, on Friday August 17th at 10.30 a.m.

BULSTAD - On August 25th, 1990, suddenly at Row Hill, Tiverton, Devon, aged 72 years. Funeral service at St. Andrews, Tiverton, on Thursday August 30th at 2.30 p.m. Donations to British Heart Foundation or to Brian Sharpen & Sons 82 Stockton Road, London NW1.

BUCKWELL - On August 1st, 1990, at Queen Charlotte and Chelsea Hospital, London, to Sarah, (née) Bury and a daughter, Godiva Teresa.

CALVERT - On August 4th, 1990, at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to Kim, a son, Tony Charles, a brother for Christopher and Emma.

CHARLES - On August 6th, to Kathy and Len, a daughter, Rosemary, Kate, a sister for Simon and Louise.

CHARLES - On August 6th, to Judith (de) Peter) and Adrian, a daughter, Emma.

CHILTON - On August 6th, 1990, at Queen Charlotte and Chelsea Hospital, London, to Sarah, (née) Bury and a daughter, Godiva Teresa.

CHESTER - On August 25th, to Frances, a daughter, Frances, a son, Nicholas.

CHICK - On August 3rd, at St. Michael's Hospital, Christiana Hospital, Windsor, P.E.I. (née) Kimmer) and Richard, a son, Ian Charles.

CHILTON - On August 1st, to Anne (de) Munro) and Gertie, a son, Alexander James McLean.

CHILTON - On August 3rd, to Alison (de) Gochin) and Michael, a son, Edward, a daughter, Katherine, "Katie" Deborah.

CHILTON - On August 3rd, at Stamford, Connecticut, USA, to Maura (née Tuohy) and John, a son, John, a brother for Hall and Janie.

CHILTON - On August 4th, to Alison (de) Gochin) and Michael, a son, Edward, a daughter, Katherine, "Katie" Deborah.

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So, farewell then, the Press Council

Only a week after the Press Council set up a working party to consider future arrangements for self-regulation and the defence of press freedom, newspaper publishers have decided to cut off its funds and forge ahead with the speedy establishment of a Press Complaints Commission (PCC) as recommended by the Calcutt Committee on Privacy and Related Matters. There could scarcely be a more blatant demonstration of the contempt with which the council is now regarded by senior figures in the industry.

Why has its reputation fallen so low? The annual report of its work, *The Press and the People*, published on Sunday at £6, reveals that for the sixth successive year it handled more than 1,000 new complaints. Whatever the industry may have felt, the public turned to the council for redress against press misconduct.

Of course, only a small minority of these complaints went as far as a full adjudication. Many were simply not pursued by the original complainant; others were dismissed; and some were satisfactorily resolved by conciliation. Of the 142 complaints considered by the full council, there was

THE PRESS

Charles Wintour

sometimes took so long to come to judgment that the effectiveness of any decision was completely nullified. It is fair to say that the council was attempting to put its house in order when Calcutt ordained the death sentence now being carried out by the funding fathers.

The immediate question is how will the new PCC be established? Calcutt suggested an Appointments Commission, possibly chosen by the Lord Chancellor, to select its members and ensure that they were both independent and well qualified. That would have taken months. In the interests of speed and simplicity it appears that the publishers would like to leapfrog that stage by appointing a chairman of acknowledged stature and independence who would be agreeable to the Home Office. Presumably the chairman would then take the lead role in choosing the rest of his team. Meanwhile, the publishers would take steps to raise the necessary finance – about £1 million a year (in 1988 the council's income was £527,000) on some sort of levy basis.

To suggest that the publishers are simply accepting every word of the Calcutt report would, however, be wrong.

The Newspaper Publishers Association (NPA) statement published in June said that it has "significant reservations" and would publish reasoned comments later. Its

main objective would be to ensure that the course adopted was "practical, workable and does not impinge upon internationally recognised press freedom".

There is a terrifying prospect that the publishers are setting up a body that can far too easily be transformed into a statutory body. With Roy Hattersley as home secretary in waiting, the publishers must be well aware of the risks. That provides a powerful reason for insisting that the PCC must be instructed that the defence of the public right to freedom of the press is an integral part of its brief. Calcutt erred in suggesting that the defence of freedom and the examination of complaints "sit uneasily together". They sit happily together whenever press councils have been established. And the PCC would be a far more powerful defender of liberty than any voluntary group (as suggested by Calcutt) could ever be.

A heavy burden now rests on Sir Frank Rogers. As chairman of the NPA he must persuade his colleagues to agree that Calcutt should be amended along realistic and democratic lines. And then, presumably, he has to carry the Home Office with him. The state is already becoming far too closely enmeshed with the future regulation of the press.

But part of that job was surely to retain the confidence of the newspaper world, and that it manifestly failed to do. It was unfortunate that whenever the chairmanship became vacant, a lawyer was appointed. Some of these lawyers, such as Lord Devlin (1964-69) and Sir Harley Shawcross (1974-78), were of such eminence and ability that they commanded respect in their own right. Others appointed more recently were of considerable intelligence but inclined to niggle about detail; and most of them under-rated the importance of upholding the public profile of the council.

Another nightmare aspect of the council's work was its failure to keep abreast of its work, partly due to inadequate staffing, partly through its cumbersome procedures. Complaints

Adland's invisible wrinkles

Sally Brompton
on the problems
young creative
types are having
with the over-50s

The advertising industry has discovered a crucial gap in its knowledge. Amid predictions that the over-55s are poised to become the age group with the greatest disposable income, the profession has been forced to acknowledge its shortcomings when it comes to taking advantage of this middle-aged goldmine.

Judie Lammon, who is in charge of research and development for the advertising agency J. Walter Thompson, pinpoints the dilemma: "As the advertising industry gets younger and younger, and the population gets older and older, how do you bridge the gap between the business interests, which include advertising and marketing, and the actual target groups which are getting older?"

One of the biggest headaches for the industry is finding a physical image with which this mature age group can identify. "If you show a five-year-old child a page of pictures of children, he or she will immediately know the difference between the ones aged four, five and six," Ms Lammon says. "The same goes for teenagers. But men and women over 45 will often identify with a picture of someone 15 or 20 years younger, or even five years older."

The simple answer is to avoid putting the consumer in the advertisement. "There are lots of ways of addressing the older age group, through fantasy or by talking about the manufacturer or about the rewards of using the product. If you are committed to portraying the consumer, our experience so far is that intelligence, attractiveness in a general sense, health, self-respect, alertness and a kind of energy are necessary. It does seem bizarre when you see some of these terrible stereotypes created by a 25-year-old art director who is thinking about his grandmother."

This view is shared by Barbara Martin, a director of Research International. She heads the firm's *fly-something* unit, set up four months ago "to bring the issue of the changing face of the population and what they think and want more to people's attention".

Ms Martin says manufacturers and providers of services tend to regard their target market as "young families, teenagers and yuppies".

The young account managers and research executives who

are planning these things are

out of sync with people over 50, who have two to three times their life experience,"

she says.

Her unit recently carried

out a research project to

discover how the 50 to 60 and

60 to 70 age groups see

themselves, how they think

society sees them, and how

they see themselves portrayed

on television – particularly in

advertisements.

"They said they didn't see

themselves portrayed at all,"

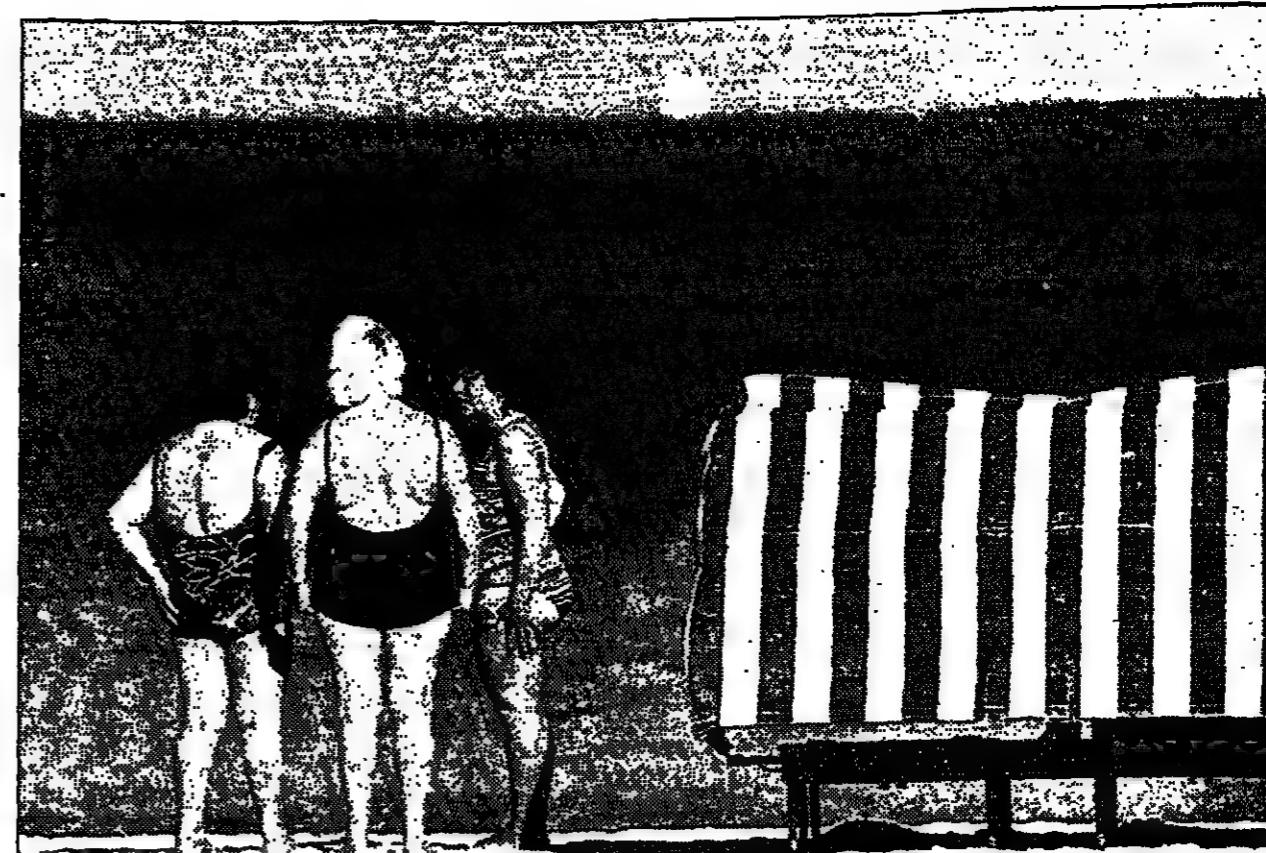
Ms Martin says. "It was a case

of invisibility." She was

surprised by the level of

interest in advertising ex-

pressed by the 50 and 60-year-



Time – and money – to spare: but if older consumers are portrayed in ads, the stereotypes are badly out of date

olds who participated in the project. Awareness of new products being advertised was combined with a willingness to criticise what they saw. Ms Martin's own opinion is that "older people like to be seen as decent dependants but as people who are very integrated, involved and belonging, who are contributing both within the family and in a community. They certainly don't want to be seen as decrepit. People in their fifties and research executives who

are planning these things are out of sync with people over 50, who have two to three times their life experience,"

she says.

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Ms Martin says. "It was a case

of invisibility." She was

surprised by the level of

interest in advertising ex-

pressed by the 50 and 60-year-

ing and patronising, I wonder what effect that would have had on the real target group – the younger people," she says.

Kay Scroah, the planning

director of the advertising

agency Miller and Leeves, has

been trying for several years to

convince clients and col-

leagues that "people don't

suddenly become unconscious

about their appearance, what

they eat and where they go

when they get to 50. If you

look through an agency's files,

every single creative brief

stops at 50. People tend to

treat over-55s like idiots."

Ms Lammon cites some of

British Rail's past attempts to

entice pensioners as being

among the most patronising

advertisements. "They tend to

assume that anybody over 60

is a little old grandmother,

ancient, infirm and feeble."

The industry worries that

by making a product attrac-

tive to the over-50s, advertis-

ers risk making it unattractive

to younger age groups.

Ms Lammon cites an old Ameri-

cian 7-Up commercial which de-

picted the inmates of an old

people's home throwing away

their sticks and dancing

around the lawn. "Apart from

the fact that it was embarrass-

ing, it does acknowledge,

however, that research

has shown older age

groups to be less

"advertising-literate"

than young people. "They are less

good at picking up television

advertising messages because

they didn't grow up with

them. They respond best to a

dramatic subject with a story

that has a beginning, middle

and end, like the Oxo

advertisements."

Ms Scroah believes that

older women in particular are

portrayed in advertisements as

"stupid. If I asked someone

in an advertising agency to draw them they would draw some doddering, fat old bat. People have this knack of saying: 'My mother's 60, but you don't mean her, you mean all the others.' In fact, a lot of their mothers are typical."

The one "middle-aged" commercial acclaimed by the advertising industry was not intended specifically to attract the over-50s. The three-year-old Commercial Union advertisement for life assurance, which featured a couple in their 50s on a cruise liner, was "not so much looking at the grey market, oddly enough, but just saying 'Here is an older couple enjoying the fruits of their savings,'" according to Ray Morley, Commercial Union's marketing services manager.

The situation may be

improving, but only "alarmingly slowly", Ms Scroah says.

The over-55s are not well

represented in advertising,

marketing and television, she

says, but when they are, they

are "exceptional. People then

have the excuse to say: 'I know she's 55, but she's not typical. She wouldn't be here if she was,'" she adds.

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Here we go, baroquing all over the world

Using pop marketing techniques to sell classical music has been a sound business move. Nicolas Soames reports

More classical records will be sold in Britain this year than ever before, because of the influence of pop marketing techniques on the promotion of classical music, plus a bit of luck.

The Essential Pavarotti is on course for sales of one million by the end of the year, while Nigel Kennedy's *The Four Seasons* has passed the double platinum figure of 600,000, and his recording of the Mendelssohn and Bruch violin concertos has sold more than 100,000 copies.

This alone would have made 1990 a record year, but the next three months will achieve even more. Decca is confident that it has two more Pavarotti releases which will make the pop charts. The company is spending up to £500,000 on a television-led marketing campaign to be launched next week.

EMI is poised to give a new image to Peter Donohoe, the Manchester-born pianist, using lessons learnt from marketing *The Four Seasons*. "There is no doubt that the market for classical music on record has greatly expanded in the past 12 months," says Chris Evans, EMI's classical

marketing manager in Britain. But the great challenge facing classical music is proving that the success of Pavarotti's "Nessun Dorma", which reached number two in the pop Top 20, and Kennedy's *The Four Seasons* was not just a happy freak of fortune.

Decca's answer is twofold. The company recently released "Caruso", another Pavarotti pop single, from *The Essential Pavarotti*. However, Decca's main thrust is its huge marketing push behind *Carreño, Domingo, Pavarotti in Concert*. After the live broadcast on the eve of the World Cup final in Rome, Channel 4 received more than 4,000 appreciative calls from the public. The recording, available on CD, tape, LP and video, goes on sale officially on August 20.

"It obviously touched a deep chord in a lot of people," says Michael Letchford, Decca Classics's UK director. "It gave opera singers a human face."

But Mr Stanley and his employer are acutely aware of

Will the young listen to Auntie?

As BBC Radio 5 prepares to go on air this month, its controller explains how she hopes to give teenage listeners their own voice

Patricia Ewing, the controller of BBC Radio 5, ponders the question of her biggest fear, and finally says it is "... that we won't give our listeners the programmes they deserve".

Observers believe this is something she is unlikely to experience, despite the enormous challenge of bringing sports coverage, youth and education programming and elements of the World Service together to create a loyal audience for the BBC's first new network in 23 years.

The former head of BBC Radio sport and outdoor programming has regularly been putting in 16-hour days ("I'm too busy to be nervous") in the run-up to Radio 5's August 27 launch, on the medium wave frequencies donated by Radio 2, which now becomes a single-channel stereo FM network.

As the last-minute mechanics are sorted out, Ms Ewing remains calmly confident that she can achieve her main goal: to woo the young back to radio.

"Years ago, radio used to offer plays and stories for young children,

but there are now two generations that have missed out," she says. "We're going to reach an audience that doesn't exist at the moment, with programmes that don't exist at the moment." Radio 5, in between its bell-by-ball Test match coverage, hourly sports bulletins, schools and Open University programming, aims to foster a wholly new "youth radio culture" that gives young people their own voice.

The new station's content, unveiled yesterday, goes a long way towards making up for radio's neglect of the young. Less than an hour a week has been devoted to youngsters at home. On Radio 5 they will get four hours a day.

Older children and teenagers who have had few alternatives to pop music stations can listen to a "youth magazine" live each night from 9.30pm to 11pm, containing a mix of speech, music and lively

discussion coming from all over Britain.

Pamela Stephenson, Philip Schofield, Stephen Fry and Terry Wogan will bring to life children's stories, plays and serials, while Sebastian Scott keeps order as Glenda Jackson and Julian Clary are put on the spot by a teenage audience. Emma Freud will help deal with young people's problems in *The Answerphone*, and Simon Fanshawe presents a live arts programme. Caron Keating examines the European youth scene.

Ms Ewing accepts that, left to their own devices, children will continue to gravitate towards the

television, Radio 1 and new commercial radio stations. "That is why I think we have to be quite good," she says.

Will children shy away if told by their parents to listen to Radio 5? "No, I'm more ambitious than that. I want 13-year-olds to tune in to what their parents would not have even dreamt of suggesting. We can be an alternative for youth. They are at an age when they want to be independent. They don't want to do what their parents are doing, which is probably watching TV."

Clearly, Radio 5 has to give children and youth what they want



Given the Nigel Kennedy treatment: Peter Donohoe, winner of the Tchaikovsky Competition, photographed with his up-ended Steinway grand piano.

The campaign will be based on three recordings, including Tchaikovsky's popular Concerto No 1 and Brahms's first concerto. "The initial target is the classical chart, although we hope to reach 100,000 sales within a year," Mr Evans says.

While EMI and Decca's PolyGram Classics are leading the field, the effects of the new

classical marketing are noticeable elsewhere. BMG/RCA's photograph of the cellist Orla Harney reclining on a sofa, and the highly imaginative record covers and publicity pictures by Virgin Classics, are other examples.

This fresh approach is confirmed by a more aggressive commercial tack expressed neatly by Richard Lyttleton, the president of EMI Classics.

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Agencies bite the bullet

'Peace' has hit the army's ad budget

THE paring down of Britain's defence system under the government's "Options for Change" programme is likely to leave the UK advertising industry several million pounds worse off. Last year, agencies benefited from a £28.3 million Ministry of Defence recruitment budget for the army, navy and air force, but as the Treasury's efforts to avoid overspending this year's £21 billion defence budget take effect, cash for recruitment advertising is certain to become scarcer.

The 89,000-strong air force is to shed 14,000 of its men, while the navy cuts back its force by 3,000 to 60,000. The army, which is cutting its force by 40,000 to 120,000, has already had to drop plans to repeat successful television and cinema campaigns after its £16.5 million recruitment advertising budget was slashed by £5 million.

Brigadier Simon Lytle, who oversees the army's marketing programme, promises the agencies which handle his account, Collett Dickenson Pearce and Delaney Fletcher Slaymaker Delaney & Bozell, they need not fear being left with nothing to do. "Recruitment does not stop because of cutbacks. I have been enlisted to 16,000 against a prediction of 21,000, but we still need to advertise for those 16,000," he says.

The criterion for new recruits is now likely to be quality not quantity, with advertising directed more at officers than other ranks, especially at those with technical skills. Brigadier Lytle is also poised to step up recruitment advertising for the Territorial Army, which is 10 per cent short of its full complement of 82,000 and looking forward to a more prominent role under "Options for Change". An £800,000 television campaign is planned for the autumn.

Women will also find themselves the target of army recruitment advertisements later this year through a glossy magazine campaign scheduled for October.

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Send s.a.e. for further details and application form (quote appropriate ref.) to Personnel Unit, BBC, Broadcasting Centre, P.O. Box, Barrack Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 9 2WS.

Application forms to be returned by August 20th.

Years ago, radio used to offer plays and stories for young children,

but there are now two generations that have missed out," she says.

"We're going to reach an audience that doesn't exist at the moment, with programmes that don't exist at the moment."

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match coverage, hourly sports bulletins, schools and Open University programming, aims to foster a wholly new "youth radio culture" that gives young people their own voice.

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TELEVISION

Passing of rights and rites

THE eyes of the world cannot be said to be focused on Peru: theoretically controlled by an elected government, with no military dictator in sight, the country has attracted much less attention even from civil-rights workers than Chile or Argentina or El Salvador. Yet 15,000 Peruvians have been murdered since 1982, and another 12,000 have officially "been disappeared". This is a recent practice whereby armed men arrive in a village and "disappear" any activists, several of whom have later been found floating in nearby rivers or being fed, limb by limb, to local pigs.

For Yorkshire Television, *First Tuesday* (11.30) took up the case of Angel Escobar Jurado, who was until recently preparing a dossier on the number of innocent peasants who have recently been disappeared by the army in his village. In a community where hooded gunmen supervise elections on behalf of the government, and where villages are now defined as military zones in the fight against Maoist guerrillas, army officers are lying through their teeth. One, interviewed for this film, claimed not to have heard of Angel's disappearance until seven days after he had in fact written a letter officially regretting it.

What was so especially heartbreaking here was the involvement of Angel's daughter, a 12-year-old child, now almost certainly bereaved, who had been her father's assistant and companion in his fight against local corruption. "One does not," said a local lawyer, "administer the law here and stay alive." In the fight against the guerrillas of "The Shining Path", the Peruvian army has clearly decided that it is above all regulations, including those forbidding murder or kidnap.

Five months on, Angel is still missing and his family are starving. In an undclared civil war, managed by a corrupt and complaisant government, he is merely one of about 30,000 men, women and children who have abruptly ceased to exist. The shot of Angel's daughter on a bleak hillside, alone and afraid, is the one that they perhaps should start putting on the Peruvian stamp, if the world is ever going to start caring about what is going on down there.

Back in the comparative affluence of Bombay, Channel 4 came up with *The Parsees*, a curious study of the Zoroastrians. This is a Parsee community which seems to operate an entirely self-contained sub-culture, to the apparent fury of its downtown neighbours.

"Great snobs," said one of the latter, "who think blue blood runs in their bloody veins. They feel special because they come from Iran and bunk like that." Another critic, in the grip of still more indignation, conjuring up images of weird sexual deviance, announced that during the Raj it was the Parsees who "buttered the backs of the British".

Nowadays they seem to lead rather less exciting lives, though their claims to Indian fame are formidable. Although photographed here doing nothing more drastic than throwing some melons into the sea at nightfall, it was revealed that Parsees provided the first Indian MP (for Central Finsbury), the first Indian knight, the first Indian revolving restaurant and the first Indian rubber tyre, not to mention the first Indian nuclear explosion. Parsees also talk constructively to trees, have recruited Freddie Mercury of Queen to their faith and are now almost all well over 60 years old.

An endangered species, heavily outnumbered by Hindus and Muslims, they wear sacred vests and worry a lot about their grandchildren marrying the wrong sort of people or going to live in Canada. For much of the time, it seemed they could have been members of a small church community in Bromley, at least, until they began throwing the melons into the sea and calling the local barman "Mr Sodawater-bottle-opener", at which point suspicions arose that they might have problems with the 21st century.

One of them said, memorably, "We do not want any Tom, Dick or Harry in our religion." As they have already got Freddie and several trees to talk to, they will probably make it through another couple of decades, unless of course they decide to go back home to Iran.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

THEATRE

To be or not to be asked

A recent increase in theatre productions which address religious and metaphysical issues leads Benedict Nightingale to ask whether our playwrights have been shirking their spiritual responsibilities

Compared with *Death of a Salesman* and *The Crucible*, solid oaks both, this is the merest sapling. The plot is not particularly plausible, involving as it does a wealthy mid-Western mink-breeder, medievally obsessed with the idea that the wheel of fortune will spin and squash him. The conclusion is glib and a bit smug, deciding as it suddenly does that Man, especially American Man, is captain of his soul and master of his destiny. Yet Arthur Miller's *The Man Who Had All The Luck*, now at the impossibly Young Vic, confronts questions about the nature of the universe which are ignored or begged in his more mature work — and are seldom, if ever, asked by any dramatist nowadays.

For me, the play brings to a head feelings that have been festering unacknowledged since December.

Between then and now Samuel Beckett has died, David Hare and Simon Gray have each brought Church of England clerics on to the London stage, and everyone seems to be presenting *King Lear*.

Out of the theatre, a religious resurgence has continued to wash away the flimsy roots of east European marxism, and a new Archbishop of Canterbury has been named, one who seems robustly to believe in the supernatural forces he is supposed to represent. It is as if a series of unrelated events were conspiring to remind us that metaphysics are still on the human agenda, and therefore should be on the theatrical one.

Samuel Beckett was an agnostic when, like Hare, our playwrights tackle subjects with metaphysical implications. But such occasions are rare, and the times when they confront such drastic issues head-on are almost non-existent.

On the one hand, there is the self-doubting, God-doubting vicar who sees his mission as sticking up

for the poor; on the other, there is the evangelical curate whose confident aim is to present "Christ" to as many people as possible; and Hare's sympathies are as obvious as they are painless for him to reach. For him, the Church is a social institution like many another, laudable when it seems progressive and culpable when it is politically neutral or reactionary.

That is no doubt a widely-held view, but it leaves something out of the argument. It is as if a man without any understanding of nutrition were to set up as a culinary expert and restaurant critic. He might be right to favour some amiable vegetarian café over a sleek, brash branch of MacDonalds, but his opinion would carry more weight if he knew just a little about protein and vitamins. How can anyone adequately discuss the Church of England, or any other religious institution, without recognising that spiritual food is what it is fundamentally in business to serve?

This is not to bewail the theatre's failure to find Christian writers to replace the late T.S. Eliot and the ageing Christopher Fry. Never mind the particular creed a dramatist espouses. Never mind whether he or she is a Christian, a Buddhist, a Muslim, or nothing at all in particular.

Samuel Beckett was an agnostic when, like Hare, our playwrights tackle subjects with metaphysical implications. But such occasions are rare, and the times when they confront such drastic issues head-on are almost non-existent.

That is what is usually missing when, like Hare, our playwrights tackle subjects with metaphysical implications. But such occasions are rare, and the times when they confront such drastic issues head-on are almost non-existent.

Think of Tom Stoppard's enterprising rip-off of *Waiting for*

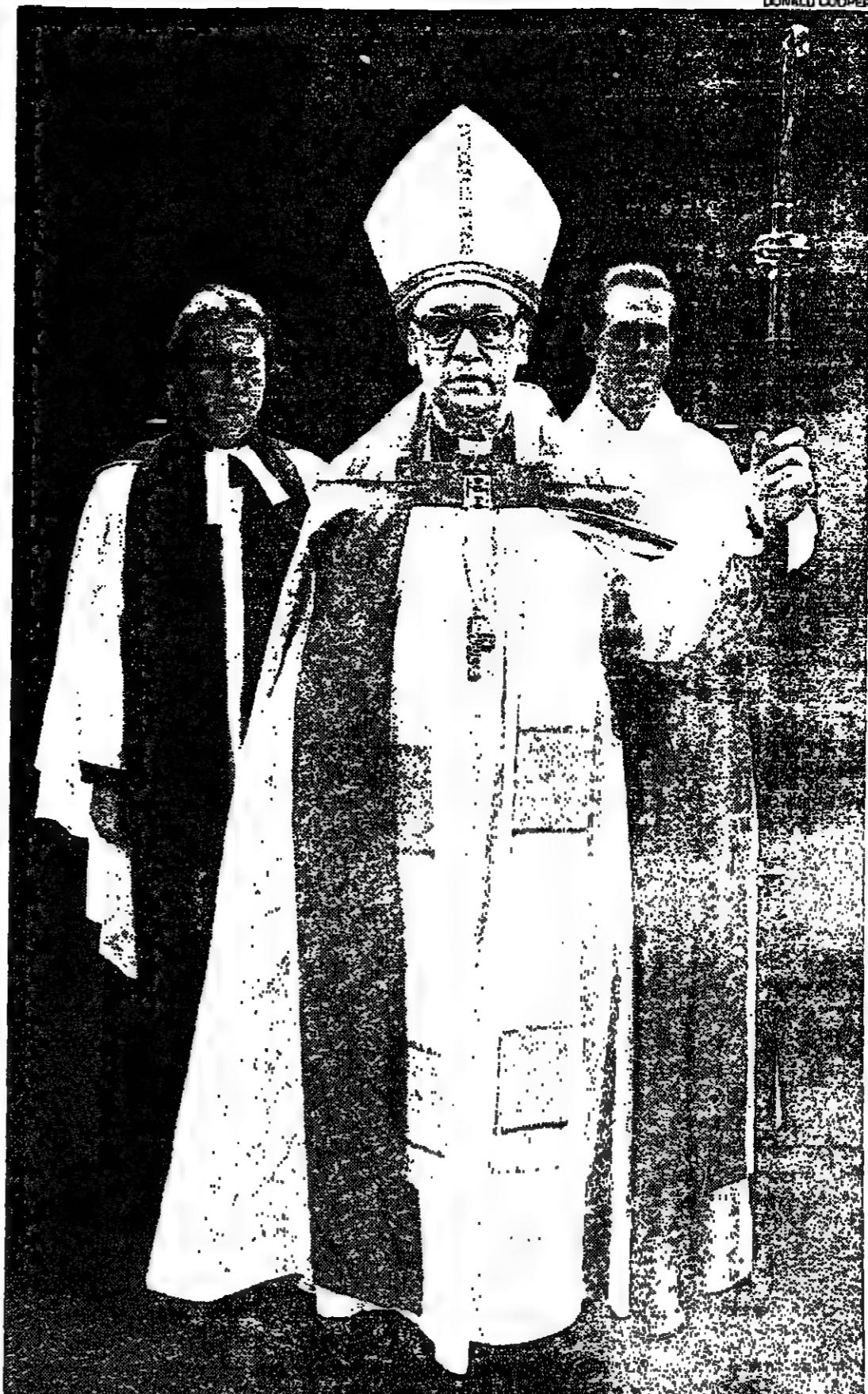
Godot, *Rosencrantz* and *Guildenstern Are Dead*. Remember the same author's brilliantly imaginative attack on materialist philosophy, *Jumpers*. That just about sums up the British theatre's contribution to metaphysical debate in the last 25 years.

True, it would be a bit absurd, and pretty monotonous, if every dramatist were to spend his or her career disentangling fate, chance and free will, or agonised debating the moral character of the cosmos. True, plays are sometimes written which implicitly address such mega-questions.

Harold Pinter's most powerful works leave the impression that, behind the social pretence, we human animals are doomed to spend our lives battling for territory, sex, dominance and power. He is the Charles Darwin of our theatre, a philosopher-dramatist for whom the world is a godless jungle in which only the fittest survive.

Similarly, the sombre comedy at the Vaudeville, *Hidden Laughter*, touches on matters of some metaphysical moment. On the face of it, Simon Gray's vicar is rather like Hare's half-believing one. Isn't it "preposterous", he mildly inquires, to accept a God who seems as erratic as someone "on drugs", capable of infecting a boy's brain with cancer one moment and arbitrarily curing the disease the next? Yet such questions interest the agnostic Gray for their own sake, because he wants to think through the problem of suffering, not because they place the speaker in a politically divided Church.

But how often do we get inquiry even as glancing as that in a British theatre whose attitudes and beliefs may be summed up as secular humanism? There is an unwritten agreement among our more serious dramatists to forget philosophical issues and concentrate on political or private ones; to take the cosmos for granted, and concern themselves



Anglican reactionary? Richard Pasco in David Hare's *Racing Demon*, now at the Olivier

with social justice, personal relationships, and other matters which are more than decent. Yet just occasionally, the mind longs for larger perspectives. Why is *King Lear* being revived by the National, the RSC and Renaiss-

sance Theatre this summer? Could it be because, of all plays, it asks the hardest, deepest questions about what its characters call "the gods"? Could it be that it answers a craving unsatisfied elsewhere?

OPERA

What counts is the box office

Adrian Danner on evidence that financial pressures and a desire to broaden audiences are causing some opera houses to go astray

The debate about what is or is not worthy of presentation in an opera house is not some academic sub-division of Post-Modernism, but rather a simple financial and administrative matter. Opera houses need popular sell-out shows in order to subsidise their more experimental work, or more often, simply to survive.

Popularity is usually gained by widening the scope of the opera repertoire so it includes every sort of entertainment, though not necessarily opera itself. Hence opera, which was once the most elitist form of court entertainment, ends up meaning anything which features singing and might pull the crowds in. When it comes to the new eclectic programming of almost every opera house, the baseline is now profit, which means survival, and not aesthetic evolution.

New York City Opera is a case in point, a company regularly threatened with extinction, a company which many see no reason for at all. Many outside Manhattan remain unaware of its existence, or rather confuse it with the Metropolitan Opera, much to the NYCO's benefit. Sharing adjacent buildings at the Lincoln Center is about the extent of their similarity.

The Met deals with big stars and full-scale productions with an old-fashioned, albeit sometimes preposterous grandeur. New York City Opera has no stars, and seems to limit itself to populism, giving second-rate versions of the Met's grand opera for half the price.

SHERIDAN MORLEY



Sondheim's cult victim whose name does not guarantee a sell out

fully bounded centre-stage, but it seemed like merely a ritual.

As the ENO discovered with his *Pacific Overtures*, Sondheim is no automatic cure-all for an opera company, and his reputation as being "too good for Broadway" is beginning to smell like "not good enough". NYCO's new production of Janáček's *House of the Dead*, the new *Moses und Aron* and the revival of their acclaimed *Street Scene* may redeem them, but it seems obvious that they, like most opera companies, should reinvest in the form proper, rather than courting popularity and disaster.

Sondheim is, possibly, a genius. His musicals have a certainty, a sophisticated confidence that none can match, but his cult is depressing. The image of these fanatics at home with their treasured original recordings and brand new CDs, their piles of tatty memorabilia — a signed *Company* programme, a Harold Prince sketch — haunts every Sondheim evening.

Night Music was enjoyable yet curiously dated, a 1973 period piece a slice of cod romance from a less dangerous era. Designed by Michael Anania in apparent homage to Liberace, with piano and candelabra to the fore, there was a cloying sickliness to the whole show, the weight of fake sentiment burdening its assumed levity.

The conducting by Paul Gemignani was ideal, an accurate yet lush performance, and the singing, largely by musical comedy actors, was surprisingly rich. Yet even "Send in the Clowns", the show's one really big number and the main vocal challenge for actress Sally Ann Howes, failed to be as emotive as everyone was clearly waiting for it to be. The amplification was a little erratic and boomy, the acting a tinge too hammy and the set altogether too *Good Old Days*.

The magic of Sondheim, that we are always being reminded about, seemed far away, back in 1973, though his fabled cleverness was still much in evidence. The audience stood and cheered the bearded guru himself as he bash-

CRITICS' CHOICE: DANCE, MIXED MEDIA AND OPERA

DANCE

MARCEL MARCEAU & COMPANY: Marcel Marceau, the living legend of mime, presents his fifteenth London season.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE, ROSEBURY AVENUE, LONDON EC1 (071-278 8916), TONIGHT, 7.30PM, MAT. SAT. 2.30PM, £3-£14. UNTIL AUG 25.

COPPELIA: Ronald Hynd's attractive production for English National Ballet Festival Hall, South Bank (as above), tonight Sat. 7.30pm, mat. tomorrow, Sat. 2.30pm, £5-£10.

KOREAN CLASSICAL MUSIC AND DANCE COMPANY: Colourful folk and court dances at the Edinburgh Festival Royal Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh (031-225 5756), Mon. 7.30pm, Tues. 3pm and 7.30pm, £6.

SWAN LAKE: Natalia Makarova's production for English National Ballet, Festival Hall (as above), Mon. until Aug 25, evens 7.30pm, mats Thurs. Sat. 2.30pm.

JOHN PERCIVAL: The result of course, has been

Grétry reigned supreme in late 18th-century French comic opera, and *Le Huron*, reviewing his first British performance, was the fourth of a long list of works for the stage Geoffrey Dolton takes the title role.

OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON (as below), TONIGHT, 7.45PM, £3-£27 50

THE MAID OF ORLEANS: Glasgow's status as the European City of Culture has brought it the Bolshoi Opera, making their first appearance in the UK. Their production of Tchaikovsky's reworking of Schiller's *Joan of Arc* (with romantic interest for the heroine added) will no doubt be in the grand.

THE SCOTTISH EXHIBITION CENTRE, GLASGOW (041-227 5511), FR. SAT. SUN. 7PM, £10-£15.

NEW YEAR: Eubertini, astonishingly inventive score by the 85-year-old Michael Tippett, updating the themes of individual rebirth and personal growth from *The Midsummer Marriage*. But will the new multi-level stand the test of time? The multi-layered Krister St. Hill gives his way through as Donny. Helen Field is sympathetic as his step-brother Jo Ann. Richecca Manager intentionally less so as Regan. Andrew Davis conducts.

GLYNDEBOURNE, LEWES, EAST SUSSEX (0273 541111), SAT. MON. 6.10PM, £37

THE GREEK PASSION: The Edinburgh Festival celebrates Marinoni's centenary with an impressive list of the prolific Czech composer's works. His last opera, *The Greek Passion*, is given in a concert performance by the Prague Symphony Orchestra under Jim Belohlávek, with Arthur Daves and Phyllis Cannan heading the cast.

USHER HALL, EDINBURGH (031-225 5756), MON. 8PM, £6-£16.

BARRY MILLINGTON

MIXED MEDIA

YOSHI OIDA: UK première of two one-hour pieces by the respected Japanese artist Oida, best-known for his work with Peter Brook.

ALMEIDA THEATRE, ALMADA STREET, LONDON W1 (01-359 4404), TONIGHT UNTIL AUG 18, EVENS 8PM, MAT. SAT. 4PM, £24.50-£25.

THE MAPAPA ACROBATS: Seven-piece Kenyan group mix tumbling, acrobatics and traditional dancing in what promises to be a colourful, high-energy show.

WATERMAN'S ARTS CENTRE, 14 HIGH STREET, BRENTFORD (081-847 5651), TONIGHT, 8.30PM, £3.95 (£2.95).

THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, 54 GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH (031-225 2426), SUN UNTIL SEPT 1, 11.30AM, £3 (£2), CHILDREN UNDER 10, £2.50.

LE HURON: Buxton continues its admirable off-the-beaten-track record with the other Varese-based opera of this year's festival: a version of *L'Impératrice* by the Belgian composer André Grétry.

OPERA

TANCREDI: Volpiers provide the themes for this year's Buxton Festival, and both the operas being presented are based on stories by the great French philosopher, Rossini's "heroic melodrama". Tancredi is ably conducted by Anthony Hope, and Elizabeth Woollatt is excellent as Amelinda.

OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON (0299 72190), TONIGHT, FR. 7.45PM, £3-£27.50.

LE HURON: Buxton continues its admirable off-the-beaten-track record with the other Varese-based opera of this year's festival: a version of *L'Impératrice* by the Belgian composer André Grétry.

OPPORTUNITY: 17 pages.

DEPARTMENT: 55 pages. Plan available until October 31st 1990.

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REVIEWS

Sartre's homage to Dumas

THEATRE

Kean
Old Vic

THERE could hardly be two such different actors. Edmund Kean was tiny, physically unprepossessing, ferocious, and had a voice "like a hackney coachman's at one o'clock in the morning". Derek Jacobi, who plays him at the Old Vic, is of average height, svelte, naturally fastidious, and, though capable of the odd crashing crescendo, pretty dulcet.

Why, then, is the casting so successful, and Sam Mendes's production so enjoyable? Perhaps because, though Jean-Paul Sartre often admitted to admiring the historic Edmund, he did not seriously attempt to recreate him here. Indeed, Kean is only partly his work. It is a fairly faithful adaptation of a play by Dumas père which may have been ghosted by a hack called de Courcy. The Kean who emerges is not the venomous roué who ruled the early 19th-century stage, but a charismatic dandy with a glad eye, a good if volatile heart, and an instinct for impishness.

The play itself is a romantic comedy verging at times on farce. Jacobi's Kean pursues Eleanor David's languidly beautiful Elena, and is himself chased by an aspiring actress, Sarah Woodward's pert, practical Anne. These love-games reach a climax during a performance of *Othello* in which the offstage jealousies match those unfolding onstage. Elena, enraged to find Anne playing Desdemona



Derek Jacobi (right) takes the title role, with Nicholas Farrell as the Prince Regent in Sartre's *Kean*

to Kean's Moor, begins openly to flirt with her companion, Nicholas Farrell's genial Prince Regent. The mighty Edmund, furious at this show of intimacy, starts hurling pillows, insults and worse at the royal box.

It is not a scene one would expect from the founder of existentialism. If Bertrand Russell had penned a sitcom for John Cleese, it would hardly be more surprising. Yet Sartre loved Dumas, had a sneaking weakness for period romance, and assured interviewers with some relief that "there is no philosophical theme of any sort in *Kean*". A certain ruminative quality does, however,

make itself quietly felt in the play's less rumbustious passages.

If it has an overriding interest, as opposed to a "theme", it is the actor as a non-person, a human vacuity waiting to be filled. Kean is befriended by the bohemian prince, but, as far as conventional society is concerned, scarcely exists. More importantly, he shifts from emotion to emotion, personality to personality, yet inhabits them less securely than any stage role. "I am an actor playing the part of Kean playing the part of Othello," he decides: "I am nothing. I play at being what I am." He repeats; and nobody, least of all Sartre, seems to contradict him.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

her hair, an outfit worn by tiny tots at the other end of the century. Gradually it emerges that these girls are the four generations of one family, sharing the same rituals of childhood, but separated in real time. Doris will grow up to become Margaret's mother, Jackie's grandmother, and eventually sit sewing the tail on a kite for Rosie, her great granddaughter.

Threading together the expressive domestic scenes — the wartime nights spent under the grand piano, the liberated Sixties, the punk Seventies — is each generation's longing to help her daughter find a more fulfilled life, and the losses and pain this brings. The emotional links between them, sometimes touchingly direct, in other scenes can only be signalled in silence or by changing

the subject. They are as complex as the Greek lace that career-girl Jackie presents to her harassed mother. Individually, however, the women will each feel themselves to be too much like the last marble in Doris's game of Solitaire; in the centre and successful, but alone.

These tensions are beautifully brought out in Ellie Haddington's Margaret, relaxing into a thin smile when called "mummy" again by her estranged daughter. Joanna Riding gives an engaging performance as the prickly schoolgirl growing into a sparkly adolescent. When Jackie parts from her daughter and only years later speaks honestly of her feelings, there is a heart-catching passion in Gillian Wright's wide-eyed grief; Madeline Blakney reveals a

sturdy range of emotion as the matriarch from the gruffness of her new widowhood back (or, in this play's artful structure, forward) to the rapture of a young girl's engagement.

These scenes are superbly paced in Annie Castledine's production, on a multiple set by Iona McLeish that puzzlingly includes one very high level on a stage quite spacious enough to accommodate it on the ground. In the three years since I first admired this play, at the Contact Theatre, Manchester, my admiration for Charlotte Keatley's achievement has increased still further. In its revelation of mother-daughter emotions over the years, the play is without rivals. It is a classic.

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For the rest, it would hardly be fair to put all the blame on the soloists. Much of the fault lay with a format which gave them little scope beyond running the chord changes. Providing discreet backing for each player, Dankworth's rhythm section — John Horler (piano), Alec Dankworth (bass) and Alan Ganley — exhibited stamina and endurance beyond the call of duty.

It was left to the young Scottish player, Tommy Smith, to take a different tack. Playing solo, with only his torch lighting the stage, he played "Round Midnight" over a sparse synthesiser track. It may have been another bout of self-conscious and frequently soulless shuffling of tone and pitch, but he at least spotted the potential for a touch of drama. Before the interval there was another display of technical virtuosity from John Harle, whose band alternated between brisk, passion-free jazz-rock and some startling ballad arrangements, among them Pat Metheny's "If I Could".

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Mahler's finest symphonies is that although they may draw listeners into the slough of despond, before shooting them high into the realms of immortal expectation, the journeys are conducted with the utmost technical sureness. That is not the case with the Seventh, even if some Mahlerian scholars maintain that the work is a fascinating document of psychosis.

A better performance would have put the symphony's case more convincingly. The Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra never had the string power or the wind finesse to make the work's rhetoric speak loud and clear, and Esa-Pekka Salonen — strangely for a conductor with such a clear and precise beat — had difficulty holding the jagged phrases of the first movement together.

Among the thundering fugues of Dupré and Franck, there was a first performance in Titterington's recital, of Diana Burrell's *Arched Forms with Bells*. An odd title, given that there are no bells involved, and rather an odd piece: short-winded ideas, often involving trills and little upward flecks, are repeated over and over. The music gives the impression of continual upward movement, and culminates in some impressive clusters, but the momentum too often stagnates into obsessive rhythmic patterns.

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Clark Tracey Quintet. The ease and finesse of his solo brought echoes of the late Paul Desmond. Otherwise, the outstanding set was by the master of ceremonies, John Dankworth, whose prelude to the main event was an effortless canter through "Days of Wine and Roses".

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6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Laurie Mayer and Fiona Foster 8.55 Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather
9.05 *Bella and Sebastian* (r) 9.25 Record Breakers: Roy Castle and Cheryl Baker introduce an attempt at the world car-race record (r)
10.00 News and weather followed by *Double Dare*. Peter Simon hosts the soapbox game show (r) 10.30 *Playdays* (r)
10.55 *Five to Eleven*. Gary Watson reads from the Gospel of Mark
11.00 News and weather followed by *Eats for Treats*. Jane Aitken and her child cooks prepare an American feast
11.35 *The O Zone*. Music magazine 12.00 News and weather followed by *The Garden Party*. Includes a report on what makes game shows compulsive viewing — for some 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton. Weather 1.30 *Neighbours*. (Ceefax)
1.50 *The Train Now Departing*. Anthony Smith narrates the story of how the tale of Man has been unaffected by the railway modernisation that has taken place on the mainland, and continues to operate steam trains (r)
2.20 *Knot's Landing*. Gritty American soap
3.10 *My Twin and I*. Compelling film in which twins from different backgrounds

talk about themselves and each other in an attempt to illuminate the strange bonds that exist between them (r)
4.00 *Cartoon 4-10* (Ewoks) (r) 4.35 *Knowhow*. Learning series presented by Johnny Ball (r)
5.00 *Newroundup* 5.10 *Colour in the Creek*. Episode eight of the ten-part Australian children's drama serial (r)
5.35 *Neighbours* (r). *Castles*. Northern Ireland: *Sportswide* 5.40 *Inside Under 6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Peter Sissons and *It's Dando*. Weather
6.30 *Regional News Magazine*. Northern Ireland: *Neighbours*
7.00 *Wogan* with Janet Suzman, Julian Pettifer and, providing the music, Matchbox
7.30 *Them and Us*. Giving the general public the chance to air their grievances. Local people in Bodmin complain about the clouds of coal dust from the docks. Douglas Slaggie in west London talks about the council building site in the bottom of his garden, and Matt Goss, from Brixton, talks about his loyal fans. (Ceefax)
8.00 *Lovejoy*: *The Judes Pair*. Ian McShane stars as the shadowy antiques dealer who often sells close to the wind but whose heart is in the right place. Lovejoy is on the trail of two Regency pistols which yield a mythical power in the antiques world, but which have been used for the considerably more prosaic purpose of murder (r). (Ceefax)
8.50 *Points of View* presented by Anne Robinson.*

8.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Martyn Lewis. Regional news and weather

9.00 *Baby M*. The concluding part of this dramatic true story. Surrogate mother Mary Beth is determined to keep her baby, but baby's natural father and his wife also desperately want the child and take court action to claim the girl as their own. (Ceefax)
11.05 *The Red Arrows* — 25 Years. A celebration of 25 years of the Royal Air Force's top display team. Dramatic aerial photography captures both the skill and beauty that have long been the team's trademark. Narrated by Nigel Heavers (r)
12.00 *Weather*

BBC2
6.45 *Open University: Energy Sources — Petroleum* 7.10 *Fontainebleau: The Changing Image of Kingship*. Ends at 7.35
9.00 *The Boat People*. Ten years ago, the first wave of Vietnamese boat people arrived in Britain. Cathy Burnett discovers how well they have been able to adapt to life in an alien country (r). *Wales 8.30 The Boat People*
9.30 *Film: The Renegade Ranger* (1938, b/w) starring Rita Hayworth, George O'Brien and Tim Holt. A Texas Ranger helps renegades stamp out outlaws and thieves. Directed by David Howard
10.25 *Film: Random Harvest* (1942 b/w). This is a less-jaded work on BBC2, what with *Sirn You Went Away* (Monday), *Goodbye My Chops* (yesterday) and, this morning, *Mervyn LeRoy's elegant weepie* which gave a degree of legitimacy to amnesia, a movie theme that had as much fallen into disrepute as jumped into the grave that it dug for itself in a succession of mindboggling fiascos. Not that there is anything particularly believable about James Hilton's tale of the first world war soldier (Ronald Colman) whose memory-loss is so total that he forgets he is once married to the woman (Greer Garson) who is now his secretary. But, MGM, in those halcyon days, knew how to meld the Hollywood star system at its best with technical resources at their most (most notably, Joseph Ruttenberg's camera-work). If you find yourself shedding tears over Random Harvest, be assured that it will be in a good cause
12.30 *Of Gods and Men: The People of the Rainforest*. A documentary series studying ancient Mexican beliefs and customs (r)

1.00 *Under Salt*. In praise of Bristol. Channel Pilot Outlines 1.20 *Fingermouse* (r) 1.30 *Country File*. John Craven reports on the illegal practice of badger-baiting (r)
2.00 *News and weather* followed by *Great Railways Journeys of the World*. Michael Palin takes the train from Euston to Kyle of Lochalsh (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 *News and weather* followed by *Wild World*. The wildlife of remote regions of the Alps (r) 3.50 *News*, regional news and weather
4.00 *The Rainbow Warrior Conspiracy*. Part two of the dramatisation of events leading up to and following the sabotage of the Greenpeace flag ship, the Rainbow Warrior, in Auckland Harbour, New Zealand, in 1985
5.35 *Look, Sizing*: *Cricket at the Spout*. A passion for cricket is one of the most important requirements for the regulars at the Spout pub in North Yorkshire (r)
6.00 *Film: The Wicked Lady* (1945, b/w) starring Margaret Lockwood. Melodramatic tale of a cunning woman who steals the heart of an aristocrat from his bride and marries him, only to add spice to his life by becoming a highway robber and starting an affair with a notorious outlaw. Written and directed by Leslie Arliss
7.40 *Right Guide to the World*. Los Angeles is the money-making and film-making capital of America. It is also the scene of violent gang warfare and horrific traffic problems. Magenta de Vire and Stefanie Gheorghiu look at the aspects of this city — from the unemployed Republicans to the denizens of the Hollywood Borscht Club, meeting Patby Kanter and Baltsazar Getty while Sandra highlights the problem of the 100,000 gang members, who cover territory and drugs with AK-47s
8.30 *The Victorian Kitchen*. Ruth Motz follows Mrs Beeton's guide to preparing and planning a picnic and then demonstrates Victorian jam-making techniques (r) 8.45 *Country File*. John Craven reports on the illegal practice of badger-baiting (r)
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12.30 *Open University: Ethical Principles* 12.25 *Images and Innovation*. Ends at 12.55

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Stop taking water from rivers, farmers are ordered

By MICHAEL HORNSEY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE National Rivers Authority ordered 600 farmers in the Anglian region to stop drawing water from rivers for spray irrigation yesterday. An official said the action was being taken to avert a serious threat to public water supplies later in the year.

"Our earlier appeal to spray irrigators to curb demand fell on deaf ears," he said. "We pointed out at the time that such a reaction would make restrictions inevitable. The ban on surface water abstraction is the most extensive yet issued by the authority."

Farming sources said the ban was a cause of concern but should not have any immediate impact because the cereal crop was being harvested. Farmers with boreholes who draw their water from groundwater sources are not affected.

The authority said that it was also preparing a drought order to

stop water being taken out of rivers and watercourses in the region through more than 50 slackers, structures that drain water into the fens for crop irrigation. Enforcement officers, backed by aerial surveillance, will check that the abstraction ban is observed.

River levels were dropping at an alarming rate, the authority said. Some were at record low levels and others were dry with little or no flow. Apart from the risk of a shortage of public supplies, there was a danger of rivers turning septic. In some watercourses the flow consisted of little more than waste effluent.

The abstraction ban covers the catchment area of the Cambridgeshire section of the Great Ouse, 1,300 square miles stretching from southwest Norfolk and parts of Suffolk through Cambridgeshire to north Hertfordshire. "The area is like a leaking bucket with more water going out through abstraction into the fens than is coming in from the rivers. We have to start to plug the holes if we are to begin to balance the interests of all those people who use water," the official said.

Even before yesterday's ban came into effect, bans were in force affecting more than 400 farmers in parts of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire and Essex. Restrictions on spray irrigation have also been operating for some time in Yorkshire, parts of the Severn-Trent catchment area, Wessex and the Romney Marshes. In many of those areas, licences to abstract water lapse automatically when river flows fall below a certain level.

The authority said that the restrictions in East Anglia were also aimed at protecting important wetland areas and sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs). One water abstraction licence had been withdrawn to prevent an SSSI from drying up and a close watch was being kept on other sites that were at risk if the hot weather continued.

If water levels did not improve, a navigation ban might have to be imposed on the Old West River in Cambridgeshire, which links the Ely Ouse and Bedford Ouse navigation systems, the authority said.

Lady Trumpington, a junior agriculture minister, warned farmers yesterday that large areas of farmland posed a fire risk and urged them to take special care when disposing of straw and stubble by burning. Burning is to be banned from 1993.

"We have received complaints from members of the public. In this weather burning can be more than just a public nuisance. Life and property can be put at risk. I urge farmers only to burn when absolutely necessary," she said.



Smoke on the water: some of the nine steamboats, dating back to 1910, taking part in a one-day regatta on Loch Lomond, a change from its usual venue at Windermere

Research hope on kidney disease

Continued from page 1
greeted with a degree of scepticism by political observers. Nevertheless there is no sense that the general plan is a coup.

Miss Bhutto made it clear that she would fight the elections called for October 24 by President Ishaq Khan, who dismissed the government on Monday night because, he said, it had lost credibility and popular support. He is a long-standing political opponent of Miss Bhutto.

There is a strong possibility that the interim government might postpone the elections to give its supporters more time to consolidate their strength.

Some observers believe the time to dislodge Miss Bhutto was seen as ripe while world attention is focused on the Gulf.

Miss Bhutto urged her Pakistan People's Party not to encourage people to take to the streets because, she said, any law and order problems would be used by the interim government as an excuse to delay the elections. She appealed for calm in the country, while emphasising that her dismissal was "illegal, arbitrary and unconstitutional".

President Ishaq Khan yesterday dissolved the provincial governments of Punjab and Baluchistan. The administrations in Sind and North West Frontier Province were dissolved on Monday night. The interim leaders appointed in the four provinces are staunch opponents of Miss Bhutto.

Traditionally, high blood pressure or hypertension has been regarded as a consequence of kidney failure. Professor Viberti said it now seemed that a predisposition to raised blood pressure could in fact contribute to kidney damage. Studies showed that the parents of susceptible diabetics had higher blood pressure, and more sodium activity in their arteries.

That suggested a genetic transmission of the abnormality. "From our new knowledge we may be able to develop methods of intervening in the evolution of kidney illness," he said. "We may be able to control the rise in blood pressure with drugs and interrupt the series of events leading to

kidney damage." Drugs called angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, or ACE-inhibitors, which treat hypertension, are now being used in trials with diabetic patients in hospitals in Britain, other European countries, and the United States.

James Wellbeloved, director-general of the National Kidney Research Fund, which has been supporting the work, said the advances were of tremendous importance to diabetics.

"Up to 600 people a year could be prevented from developing renal failure, releasing many dialysis machines, and reducing the need for kidney transplants," he said. At present, 4,000 people in Britain are waiting for the operation.

About 1.5 million people in Britain have some form of diabetes, and about half of them, are insulin-dependent diabetics, develop kidney complications over a period of up to ten years. Of this group, 600 develop renal failure every year, and require dialysis treatment or a transplant.

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Man killed in Cowes week boat tragedy

By RUTH GLEDHILL

ONE man died and another was seriously injured yesterday after a rowing boat was caught in the path of a passenger ferry during Cowes week off the Isle of Wight.

The accident took place in the mouth of the river Medina near the ferry pontoon. Police said the boat was dragged under the bow of the Norris Castle ferry, owned by the Red Funnel Shipping Company, which operates from Portsmouth.

According to one report, the small boat was tossed into the air when it collided with the ferry 800 yards from the royal yacht Britannia, home to the Duke of Edinburgh during the regatta. It was not known whether or not the Duke witnessed the accident.

Sailors who were nearby went to their aid and pulled the two men from the sea. A rescue boat from the coastguard at Lee-on-the-Solent was launched to help.

Both men were believed to be in their sixties. One died on his way to St Mary's hospital in Newport, and the other was detained in St Mary's last night, suffering from water in the lungs. His condition, however, was reported to be satisfactory.

A Hampshire police spokesman later said: "They got in the path of the ferry. The rowing boat was dragged under the bow."

Cowes notebook, page 34
Cowes races, page 38

New radio channel aimed at youth

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

RADIO 5, the BBC's first new radio network in 23 years, yesterday launched a programme line-up it believes will win youth and youngsters back to radio when it begins transmitting on Radio 2's medium-wave frequency on August 27.

Children's stories, plays and serials will be brought to life by Stephen Fry, Pamela Stephenson, Terry Wogan and Phillip Schofield, while Glenda Jackson and Julian Clary are put in *The Hot Seat* by a teenage audience. Toddlers will learn how to listen with Andrew Sachs's *1,2,3,4,5*, while Mark Curry's *On Your Mark* provides three hours of fun for under-14s. Emma Freud deals with young people's problems in *The Answerphone*. Live "youth magazines" from Glasgow, Cardiff, London, Belfast, Birmingham and Manchester will be broadcast each night.

BBC Radio's existing schools, educational and sports output will be transferred to Radio 5, which is also to use BBC World Service programmes as part of its regular output.

World Service output includes *24 Hours*, comment and analysis of the day's news events, *Outlook* and *Newswise*, both world news programmes, *Meridian Reports* on the arts and books, *Caribbean Magazine*, and *Global Concerns*, Jonathan Porritt's weekly environmental series.

Radio 5 is also to offer "the world's most comprehensive radio sports service", with the transfer of all Radio 2 sports output, including full test match special coverage, extensive mid-week football and racing coverage, regular sports bulletins and *Sports On Fire* on Saturday afternoons.

David Hatch, managing director of BBC Network Radio, described the Radio 5 schedule as "a treasure chest of immense richness". "It's certainly different, but it's unquestionably deeply rooted in what the BBC is there for – public service, to inform, educate and entertain," he said yesterday.

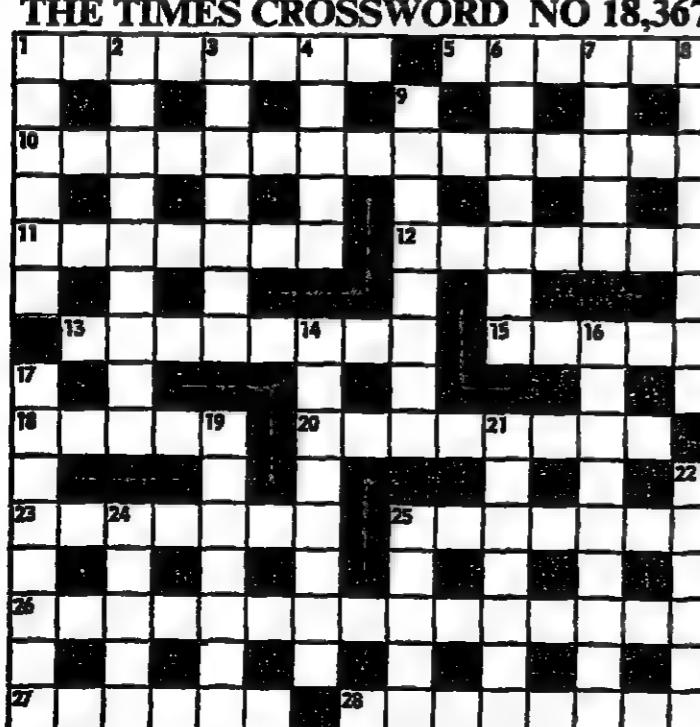
Media, page 15

Monk 'regrets brook pollution'

A BENEDICTINE monk apologised to magistrates at Malton, North Yorkshire, for polluting a beck, killing fish, insects and fauna. Father Timothy Wright, aged 47, was called from a week's retreat of prayer to answer two separate pollution charges.

A director of Ampleforth College Farms, attached to Ampleforth College, the Roman Catholic public school, Father Wright said there had been a drainage problem, now resolved, which he regretted. Fines of £500 were imposed for each charge.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,367



ACROSS

- 1 Cherish the sound grass left by the birds (8).
- 2 French writer holding little daughter – the one who had teething troubles (6).
- 3 This description of a Lee-Enfield is purely nominal (6-9).
- 4 A stymie in opposition (7).
- 5 Privateer, rough in speech and demeanour (7).
- 6 Peacock's joint title (8).
- 7 The old man's Continental bedding (5).
- 8 Tributary to an Indian king (5).
- 9 A model craft – it's made by hand (8).
- 10 Find common ground with a type of Scot (7).
- 11 The smallest sea creature a little island can produce (7).
- 12 In great gups he'd drunk the drugged mixture (8-7).
- 13 Solution to Puzzle No 18,366
- 14 Dogshores (8)
- 15 Oodaa (8)
- 16 Brantub (8)
- 17 Charger (8)
- 18 Hes (8)
- 19 Imbalance (8)
- 20 Art (8)
- 21 Dob (8)
- 22 Cod (8)
- 23 Impedimenta (8)
- 24 Rnuuy (8)
- 25 Ontogenesis (8)
- 26 Dak (8)
- 27 Ceti (8)
- 28 Sumather (8)
- 29 Clawes (8)
- 30 Frv (8)
- 31 Hb (8)
- 32 Emotive (8)
- 33 Abalone (8)
- 34 Aiel (8)
- 35 Lilla (8)
- 36 Mules (8)
- 37 Metalwork (8)

Concise Crossword, page 13

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

RHYTHMATE

- a. A blind date
- b. Fas-shaped
- c. Babylonian dating

AUTOCONDIMENTATION

- a. Pepper and salting
- b. Custom-building a car
- c. Self-correction

HYPOTOPYPOSIS

- a. Catepinolines sub-classes
- b. Vivid description
- c. Fear of being photographed

COCKET

- a. A bastion cock
- b. A carpentry joint
- c. Saucy

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks C, London (within N & S Circ), 731 M-ways/roads M4-M1 732 M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T... 733 M-ways/roads M25-M23 734 M-ways/roads M25-M26 735 M25 London orbital only 736 National traffic and roadworks 737 West Country 738 Wales 739 Northern Ireland 740 East Anglia 741 Northern England 742 North-East England 743 Scotland 744 Northern Ireland 745 AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard), 5p for 12 seconds (off-peak).

2000 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 290 291 292 293 2

Forecast profit up at Kirin

JAPAN's Kirin Brewery, now listed on the International Stock Exchange, has raised its parent group profit forecast from 34 billion yen (£121.4 million) to a record Y36 billion in the year to end-December.

Higher-than-expected sales of new beer products and a recovery in demand for lager were responsible for the higher forecast.

Kirin, which is Japan's leading brewer, had a net profit of Y28.27 billion in 1989.

McKay up 13%

Pre-tax profits at McKay Securities, the property group, rose 13 per cent to £3.65 million in the year to end-March. During the year the group capitalised £3.3 million of interest on its development portfolio. An external revaluation of the group's investment portfolio showed a surplus of £7.6 million, an increase of 8.75 per cent over book value. Net assets per share rose from 269p to 292p. A final dividend of 3p (2.8p) is being paid to make a total of 5.8p (5.3p).

Heath doubles

Pre-tax profits at Samuel Heath & Sons, the giftware products maker, more than doubled from £447,000 to £1.06 million in the year to end-March. Turnover rose 18 per cent to £8.05 million. Eps jumped from 9.3p to 22.9p. The final dividend has been raised to 4p (3.3p), making a total of 11p (4.3p). The total dividend includes a one off special centenary payment of 5.5p.

Law advances

Net asset value at Law Debenture Corporation slipped from 428.7p to 418.2p in the six months to end-June. Pre-tax profits advanced from £2.14 million to £2.35 million. Total income climbed from £2.02 million to £2.38 million, while trustee and other fees increased from £1.55 million to £1.78 million. Eps rose from 6.63p to 7.72p. The interim dividend has been raised from 5p to 5.75p.

Skoda venture

Skoda, the Czech car manufacturer, has shortlisted Volkswagen of West Germany and Renault of France as candidates for a joint venture. Other companies to have expressed an interest include BMW, Citroën, Ford and General Motors. Skoda currently produces one model, the Favorit, at its five outdated plants in Czechoslovakia.

Tuffier sale

Tuffier, the French financial group whose stockbroking arm has recently filed for bankruptcy, has sold a 51 per cent stake in Cofrem Finance, a Paris money broker, to Caisse de Gestion Mobilière (CGM), the French bank.

Delyn denial

Delyn Packaging says that, contrary to reports, the Kuwan Investment Office is not a holder of a significant shareholding in the company.

RECENT ISSUES

| RECEIVERS | | NYSE set to fine Nomura | | Freeman slips at half time | | Debut for Paramount | |
|---------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|--------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Protus Int'l | 103 | Pro Heds (100p) | 127.1 | TURNOVER | at Freeman | PARAMOUNT | a Chester leisure |
| Abtrus New Euro (100p) | 92.1 | Orbital Communications | 133 | Group, the USM contractor | Group, is expected to | group, is expected to | group, is expected to |
| Atmos Resources | 92.1 | Saint Select (100p) | 96.1 | and insulation distributor, | commence trading on | commence trading on | commence trading on |
| Bogdan Hedges | 23.1 | Torley & Carlisle (150p) | 130.53 | increased 84 per cent to £36.6 | the USM next Monday. | the USM next Monday. | the USM next Monday. |
| Capitol May (55p) | 43 | Utd Uniform | 120 | million in the six months to | The group is joining the market | The group is joining the market | The group is joining the market |
| Carroll (100p) | 43 | Venturi Inv Trst | 10 | end-June, helped by contributions | by way of an introduction, sponsored | by way of an introduction, sponsored | by way of an introduction, sponsored |
| Dermoor Inv Trst (100p) | 68 | Wig Tie App | 190.43 | from acquisitions in both Britain and France (Matthew Bond writes). | by Henry Cooke | by Henry Cooke | by Henry Cooke |
| ECU Trst | 46 | See main listing for Winter shares | | However, the increase did | Bank. The group is | Bank. The group is | Bank. The group is |
| EFM Java Trst | 47 | | | not work its way through to the | is ownership and | is ownership and | is ownership and |
| Fleming Euro IT | 90 | | | profits level. Interim operating | development of licensed | development of licensed | development of licensed |
| Flamingo Corp Trst | 93 | | | profits rose 21 per cent to £1.47 million, but a | premises, owns freehold or | premises, owns freehold or | premises, owns freehold or |
| German D | 79.1 | | | 446 per cent leap in interest | leasehold interests in a total of | leasehold interests in a total of | leasehold interests in a total of |
| Golden Vale | 53 | | | charges to £235,000 left pre-tax | 80 public houses in the | 80 public houses in the | 80 public houses in the |
| Henderson Highland (100p) | 96.2 | | | profits slightly lower at £1.23 million from £1.25 million. | Northwest. | Northwest. | Northwest. |
| Invengordon | 141 | | | The interim dividend has | | | |
| Levercrest | 106.2 | | | been increased to 3p (2.75p). | | | |
| MIMI | 21 | | | | | | |
| M & W Plc | 83.1 | | | | | | |
| Malaysian Capital | 27.2 | | | | | | |
| Marine World | 117.3 | | | | | | |
| Nym Investors | 198 | | | | | | |
| Pitcraff | 120 | | | | | | |
| (Issue price in brackets) | | | | | | | |

McKAY SECURITIES PLC

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT (ABRIDGED)

Group Results for the year ended 31st March 1990

1990 1989 £'000 £'000

Gross Rents and Service Charges Receivable 7,328 7,227 Profit Before Tax 3,649 3,218 Profit After Tax 2,460 2,316 Earnings per share 9.1p 8.5p

Directors recommend a final dividend of 3.0p per share making a total for the year of 5.8p (1989 - 5.3p).

An external valuation of the Group's UK investment properties was carried out on 31st March 1990 which showed a surplus of £7,536m. This surplus has been credited to Revaluation Reserves.

Annual General Meeting to be held 21-20 Parkside, Knightsbridge, London, SW1 on 10th October, at 12 noon.

The preliminary figures for the company's financial year ended 31st March 1990 together with the corresponding amounts for the year ended 31st March 1989 are set out in the following table. Statutory accounts for the financial year ended 31st March 1990 have been delivered to the registrar of companies, whereas those for the financial year ended 31st March 1990 will be delivered to the registrar of companies by 1st October 1990. The preliminary figures for the year ended 31st March 1990 were unaudited and did not contain a statement under section 272(2) of the Companies Act 1985. The preliminary figures for the year ended 31st March 1990 are subject to final audit.

CBI reports a bleak outlook for smaller businesses

By DEREK HARRIS, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BLEAK prospects for smaller businesses are predicted by the Confederation of British Industry's smaller firms council in its latest report.

The problem is that export orders are drying up. Until now exports have been offsetting a flat home market.

The result is that 83 smaller businesses are facing the weakest demand outlook since the beginning of 1981, said Tom O'Connor, the smaller firms council chairman.

Nearly 30 per cent of smaller firms are expecting demand for new orders to fall in the next four months to October, the report shows.

In April, 35 per cent of smaller businesses were less optimistic about their general situation while 14 per cent had more confidence.

Mr O'Connor warned: "A cutback in investment now could severely jeopardise the competitiveness of smaller firms over the next decade and could put them at a serious disadvantage in the single European market in 1992."

In April, 35 per cent of smaller firms are expecting demand for new orders to fall in the next four months to October, the report shows.

In the four months to July, 40 per cent reported a decline in orders, with only a fifth reporting any increase.

Mr O'Connor said: "Business confidence among smaller firms has declined further in the past four months and the outlook for the next four months is bleak. The warning of a possibility of a recession in the second half of this year given by the CBI last week could well become a reality."

Declining employment over the last four months was reported in the survey, and more job losses are expected.

Costs are continuing to run ahead of price rises so a further squeeze on margins is expected.

Investment intentions appear to have weakened further.

The number of smaller firms blaming high financing costs has reached the highest

for more than ten years. For the fifth successive survey, firms reported that on balance spending on plant and machinery would fall over the next 12 months.

Mr O'Connor warned: "A cutback in investment now could severely jeopardise the competitiveness of smaller firms over the next decade and could put them at a serious disadvantage in the single European market in 1992."

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Mr O'Connor said: "Business confidence among smaller firms has declined further in the past four months and the outlook for the next four months is bleak. The warning of a possibility of a recession in the second half of this year given by the CBI last week could well become a reality."

Declining employment over the last four months was reported in the survey, and more job losses are expected.

Costs are continuing to run ahead of price rises so a further squeeze on margins is expected.

Investment intentions appear to have weakened further.

The number of smaller firms blaming high financing costs has reached the highest



On course: Clay Brendish of Admiral Computing

Admiral rises 37% on higher sales

By PHILIP PANGALOS

PRE-TAX profits at Admiral Computing Group, the Surrey-based computer services company, advanced 37 per cent to £1.51 million in the six months to end-June.

Turnover rose 36 per cent to £9.78 million. The order book has improved to about £14 million. Defence business accounts for about 39 per cent of group sales, the financial sector for about 32 per cent and government about 16 per cent.

A 61 per cent increase in interest receipts to £202,000 also helped raise profits. The group had £3.5 million net cash at end-June.

The company has little exposure — less than 5 per cent of turnover — to major systems integration contracts,

which have caused problems at other computer service companies.

Clay Brendish, chairman, said: "Despite the risk of a UK recession, I still believe that the strength of the company's management will reinforce my optimism that 1990 would see continued growth."

Earnings per share have risen 49 per cent to 9.1p, and the interim payout has been improved to 1.32p, against 1.1p. Mr Brendish added: "These figures and the healthy order book speak for the future success of the company." Patrick Wellington at County NatWest has pencilled in £3.3 million for the full year. The shares were unchanged at 230p.

Barclays has arranged to borrow additional money from Barclays Commercial Services only six days after the credit check, using its invoice book as collateral. Barclays now insists Cobolt pays the £4,000 in cash, instead of allowing it to offset its debts, taking its overall deficit to £14,000.

Barclays has given Cobolt until today to settle the debt. After that it may take legal action. Richard Carey, Cobolt's chairman, says he will fight the matter in court. Five years ago, Cobolt asked for a similar reference on a Scottish company that had ordered a consignment through its Hong Kong operation. Despite Barclays assurances, the company went into liquidation before the shipment could be delivered.

Barclays said the credit reference had been given in good faith.

Barclays accused over credit references

By NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BARCLAYS Bank is being accused of giving misleading credit references about its corporate customers by an electronics company which says it is facing a £14,000 loss as a result.

Cobolt Systems, which makes and supplies aids for the blind, made the accusation after twice receiving favourable references on companies that have gone into liquidation soon after.

Last April, Cobolt asked for details on Solex International, a laboratory equipment supplier based in Leicestershire, which owed it £6,000 for scales. Solex had offered to cancel the debt by returning the stock it had bought. A Barclays branch manager assured Cobolt that the company was sound and it could expect payment soon. Cobolt refused to wait for cash.

A month later, Solex went into liquidation owing £978,000. Ernst & Young, the liquidator, told Cobolt's directors there was almost no chance of recovering its debt.

When Cobolt complained to Barclays, it was told not only that the reference was made in good faith, but that it owed the bank a further £4,000 for water level indicators it had bought from Solex. Cobolt had only bought them to reduce Solex's original debt of £10,000.

Unknown to Cobolt, Solex had arranged to borrow additional money from Barclays Commercial Services only six days after the credit check, using its invoice book as collateral. Barclays now insists Cobolt pays the £4,000 in cash, instead of allowing it to offset its debts, taking its overall deficit to £14,000.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Ratners extends offer to Kay bondholders

RATNERS GROUP, the jewellery retailer bidding £234 million for Kay Jeweler in America, has extended its tender offer to Kay's bondholders by 24 hours. The group is hoping to have reached an agreement with the bondholders by the new deadline of midnight last night New York time.

So far Ratners has received acceptances in respect of only \$95,000 of the \$150 million of bonds. Ratners is offering 75 cents in the dollar for the bonds, but has indicated that it may be prepared to offer up to 85 cents in the dollar. Up until now the bondholders have been holding out for the full value of the bonds, but a spokesman for Ratners said there were indications that the bondholders were prepared to accept a lower figure.

There is a world of difference, I would imagine, between being chairman of a subsidiary of Hanson, and being chairman of an independently listed company, with a stock market value of £1.3 billion. There is also a world of difference between being an employee of a newly floated plc and working for a conglomerate that has the reputation of being tough as old boots with its workforce.

Yet, from the silence on the matter from PowerGen, on the auction block with Hanson the front runner to buy, one could be led to believe it mattered not a jot whether the company is floated or taken over. It appears not to matter to the government, so long as top dollar is obtained. But what is the company's view? PowerGen has yet to utter.

An important element of past privatisations has been the opportunity to motivate staff and management. The dead hand of bureaucracy is taken away, and the enlightened touch of self-interest is put in its place. Even Lord King, chairman of British Airways and an admirer of Lord Hanson, would probably admit

that his company would not have had the same feel about it had BA merely passed from one monolithic owner to a large conglomerate. Lord King went in to BA to oversee the privatisation, and until recently I had assumed that Robert Malpas, the chairman of PowerGen, went into that company for the same reason.

While it is easy to see why the government would wish Mr Malpas to keep his opinions on PowerGen's future to himself, it is difficult to see why he should oblige the energy department with his silence. The future ownership of the company should be a matter for public debate, and there is none better equipped to contribute than the chairman. With an annual salary of around £150,000 to protect, Mr Malpas might be expected to take a somewhat higher profile.

The silence may, of course, have something to do with the plans of the PowerGen management to attempt a buyout, and it would be difficult to complain against one trade sale while promoting another. But it is hard to see how any kind of management buyout vehicle for PowerGen could approach the kind of price Lord Hanson is likely to be offering.

The market collapse has inevitably cut the perceived value of the two generators. Furthermore, the expiry of the three-year fixed-price contracts between the two generators and British Coal had been expected to result in cheaper coal being imported, but a continuing high oil price is likely to result in the gap between British Coal's prices and those available from overseas narrowing sharply.

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

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Mr Wakeham, who has already indicated that one criterion by which an eventual buyer of PowerGen will be judged is financial stability, is unlikely to look favourably on a buyout package that saddles the group with huge borrowings. A compromise could be a scheme whereby another of the potential buyers reported to be lurking in the background takes a substantial involvement, with the management retaining a minority interest, or a buyout package with higher-than-usual amount of equity. The first would be essentially a trade sale with a sop, the second a flotation by another name.

The worst outcome would be if Hanson, dismayed by the

political mud-flinging and the upheaval on world financial markets, simply walked away. It would signal to everyone that PowerGen is an investment to avoid.

Mystery in the Shrubbery

Just why did £38 million of pensions scheme funds end up in British & Commonwealth Merchant Bank's coffers when RJ Shrubbs, B&C's actuarial subsidiary, said it was deposited in an account with Coutts & Co?

No doubt Imro, the Institute of Actuaries and sundry other bodies are asking the same question, especially when Shrubbs appears not to have told its pensions clients that the bulk of their money was going elsewhere. The cash is now frozen.

Investors were receiving regular statements until June showing their funds on deposit in Shrubbs' pooled account at Coutts in Bristol. But on Friday B&C's administrator told creditors the money had been moved in and out of the merchant bank for two years.

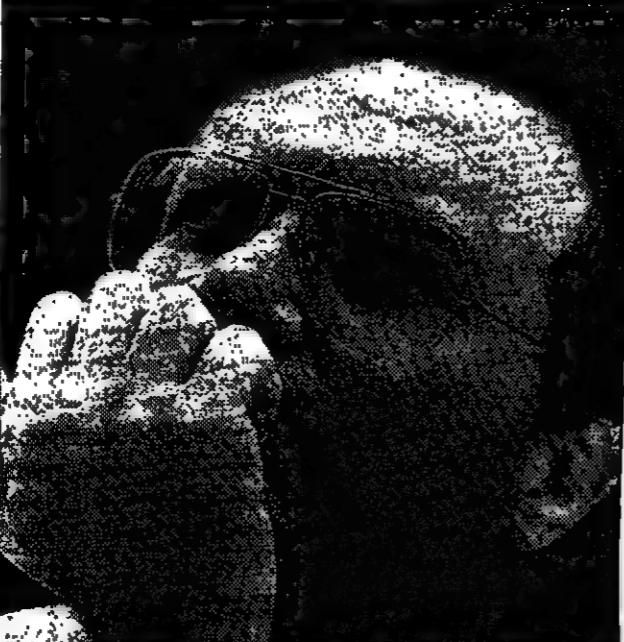
One accountant who has some £2 million of clients' money tied up said Shrubbs was never given permission to be sole managers of the money, nor was any formal or informal notification given to say the money would be going anywhere other than Coutts, which has NatWest behind it.

Indeed, Shrubbs' documentation says pension schemes need a trustee bank account and offered two choices: a local bank account kept by the scheme's directors and its trustee or use of Shrubbs' pooled account at Coutts. Shrubbs gives three advantages of its Coutts account and none of them involves the transfer of funds.

Luckily, it looks like all B&C's creditors and depositors are going to get their money back, but an explanation is required from Shrubbs, please.

TEMPUS

Look for the silver lining in BA's oil cloud



Martin Sorrell: WPP shares rebounded yesterday

headed by Martin Sorrell, delivered interim figures showing solid progress after last summer's acquisition of Ogilvy & Mather.

The market's nervousness over highly-borrowed, recession-prone stocks like WPP had been reflected in a 72p fall in the share price over the past week. A downgrading from Friday from Barclays de Zoete Wedd, a long-time bear of the stock, looked like a clear case of kicking a man while he is down.

WPP rebounded 18p to 584p yesterday after a £20 million rise in pre-tax profits to £46 million in the six months to end-June.

There are two sides to the oil price fears which have hit BA shares. Today's sharply higher dollar aviation fuel price translated into a lower sterling level than was seen at the end of 1989. The pound holds the key to full-year fuel costs. Second, if weaker competitors follow Pan Am's 10 per cent fare increase, the more efficient BA will make hay when oil prices stabilise at more normal levels. Meanwhile, on a p/e of 5.1, assuming profits of £410 million this year, the shares are excellent long-term value.

WPP Group

AS Yellowhammer, the British advertising agency, called in the receiver, WPP Group,

fore pre-tax profits estimated by the market at £111 million. The optimistic message is clear. The yield on the shares this year, at 6.8 per cent, is approaching the prospective p/e of 7.

There remains the downside, as highlighted by BZW. Heavily-borrowed agencies are hardly flavour of the month and the market's perceptions are not going to change in a hurry. It may be a while before the shares again reach the £7 price they enjoyed at the start of the year.

Unitech

ANALYSTS' forecasts range from golden to gloomy for Unitech, the electrical components manufacturer.

Granted, the company made reasonable progress last year, reporting pre-tax profits of £2.62 million, 18 per cent up. This was despite a 10 per cent drop in earnings brought about by a higher 43.4 per cent tax charge and the dilutive effect of an April share issue.

More important for the shares, however, are two Swiss investors who together account for just under 50 per cent of the shares.

One, the holding company, Electrowatt, has 29.9 per cent and will be free of its promise not to bid for the rest on September 1. With bid hopes supporting the share price at up to a 70 per cent premium over the market, the downside could be long and steep if a full bid fails to materialise.

But fund managers may stay with the company hoping that a planned February flotation of the Japanese subsidiary lifts Unitech's share price.

Meanwhile, shareholders run the risk of watching next year's profit increase disappear through sterling appreciation.

If current yen and dollar exchange rates are maintained, Unitech will have to grow 15 per cent to stand still in profit terms.

Forecasts for next year branch around £28 million to £29.5 million, putting the shares on a multiple of about 17. If you have the nerve, hold and hope for the best.

Organic growth, even in the worst-hit advertising markets in this country and across the Atlantic, stood at 6 per cent, while both O & M and J Walter Thompson bucked the market trend by finding new business.

Despite the advertising industry slowdown, the company believes it is still on target to reach the margin enhancements it has persistently promised at the two acquired agencies.

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STOCK MARKET

Carlton shares slump to fresh low

By MICHAEL CLARK, STOCK MARKET CORRESPONDENT

RELATIONS between Michael Green and City fund managers took another turn for the worse as the shares of Carlton Communications, the former high-flying television and video services group, tumbled 32p to yet another low of 368p.

Whispers in the market-

VPI, the public relations specialist, fell 3p to 104p after an agreed rescue bid from Trantwood. The bidder insists the offer is worth 16p a share, half in cash, but the market takes a different view. The rest of the payment is in loan notes and there is a "litigation unit" also on offer.

place claimed that Mr Green was about to step down as chairman after pressure from the institutions and the loss of several lucrative video reproduction contracts. But this was denied by the company. A spokesman said the talk may have been started by reports of a large American seller of the shares.

The latest weakness in the price follows the publication of a cautious review of the

company by Henderson Cros-

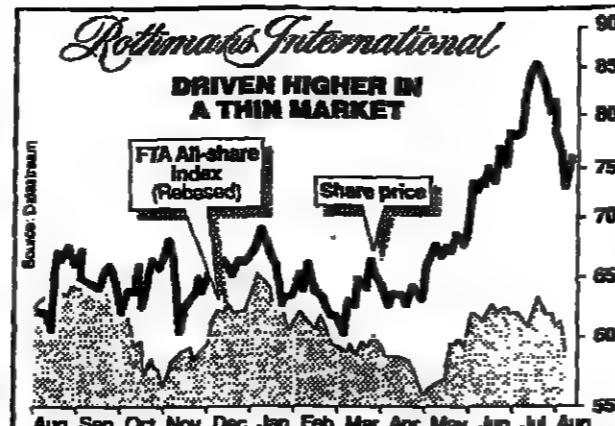
swrite, the broker.

Henderson is concerned about several of Carlton's video reproduction contracts and is also worried about the prospects for Abekas, its computerised television graphics system. Independent television companies are spending less on equipment, saving their money instead to bid for the next round of television franchises.

Fund managers have been dismayed by the performance of the Carlton price which was trading at more than 800p in January. Mr Green took advantage of the strength of the price at the time to sell 1.3 million shares at 820p each.

Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market decided to take a more optimistic view of events in the Middle East despite another heavy fall overnight in Tokyo. Prices rallied in a thin market on reports from Jordan that foreigners in Iraq would be allowed to leave. But prices closed below their best after Wall Street failed to hold on to an early 35-point lead.

The FT-SE 100 index ended 15.6 up at 2,235.8, having



been more than 40 points ahead. The FT 30 index also rose 16.5 to 1,748.4 on a turnover of less than 500 million shares.

Government securities recovered falls of 11 to end 24p at the longer end.

Oil shares were the main prop to the market in early trading. But the gains were not always held. BP eased 3p to 364p and there were also losses for Burmah, 1p to 618p, Cairn Energy, 5p to 345p, Hardy Oil, 4p to 209p, Lusona, 14p to 462p, Shell, 4p to 490p, and Ultramar, 3p to 347p.

There were gains for other

Group, up 9p at 553p ahead of figures on Thursday, ICI, 13p to 971p, Glaxo, 17p to 779p, Reuters, 30p to 975p, and British Telecom, 10p to 286p.

First-quarter figures from British Airways made an impressive reading with pre-tax profits up 62 per cent at £156 million and earnings a share up from 8.4p to 12.9p.

But Enterprise Oil managed to hold on to a 4p rise at 690p, still supported by speculation about the future of ICI's 25 per cent stake and the intentions of Elf Aquitaine, the French state-owned oil company which also owns 25 per cent of Enterprise.

The thin conditions were clearly reflected by the dealings in Rothmans International shares which surged 37p to 764p on a turnover of only 700,000 shares. The price has come back from the 858p level since July 13.

Standard Chartered, the troubled international banking group suffered a fall before

closing all-square at 389p ahead of its interim figures today.

Elsewhere in the sector, the big four clearing banks made a sluggish start before joining in the rally. Barclays Bank rose 8p to 375p, Midland Bank rose 4p to 265p, Lloyds Bank 5p to 287p and National

Bernard International, which has all its assets up for sale, jumped 11p to 45p on revised talk of a bid. Wartby published a buoy note last night, claiming that the shares have fallen too far. It estimated the value of Berlefeld's British Sugar subsidiary at more than 34p a share.

Westminster Bank 1p to 305p. The water companies were all marked higher, being wanted for their defensive qualities. Anglia rose 6p to 232p, Northumbrian 7p to 233p, North West 9p to 233p, Severn Trent 8p to 213p, Southern 5p to 202p, South West 4p to 231p, Thames 5p to 229p, Welsh 7p to 253p, Wessex 6p to 224p and Yorkshire 9p to 254p. The water package also rose £76 to £2,288.

Shares here had been declining steadily in thin and volatile summer trading for two weeks before Iraq invaded Kuwait last Thursday. The invasion, which drove the world oil prices up sharply, affected Japan's financial markets with fears of inflation and tighter credit in its wake. Yen-bond yields have soared.

Brad Bauer, the manager of Japanese equity sales for Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said: "It is shocking to see the yield on Japanese yen-bonds reach that of a US bond." A trader at a foreign broker said: "With that sort of action on bonds, who is going to buy stocks."

About 500 million shares changed hands, against 330 million on Monday. Select oil issues were, as one broker described them, "like surfers on the wave of the rebound," gaining as the Nikkei bounced back from its lows. (Reuter)

MAJOR CHANGES

Rises:

GUS 'A' 6911p (+70p)

Bersland Int 45p (+1p)

Bank Foods 215p (+10p)

Glass 775p (+10p)

Reit Ctg 7010p (+10p)

Reuters 400p (+10p)

Euro Disney 9220p (+10p)

News Corp 4941p (+17p)

Pearson 708p (+10p)

Falls:

Booher 4034p (-15p)

Heim 165p (-10p)

Magrite 85p (-10p)

British Aerospace 400p (-10p)

Carton Comm 367p (-30p)

Bitron 745p (-10p)

Closing prices

MAJOR INDICES

New York:

Dow Jones 2702.97 (-13.37)

Tokyo:

Nikas Average 2765.07 (-0.64)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng 3008.68 (-3.29)

Australia:

CSE Tendency 1107 (+2.9)

Hanover: DAX 1770.00 (+29.37)

Brussels:

General 5833.42 (-12.43)

CAC 478.88 (-19.29)

Zurich: SCA Gen 614.3 (-12.7)

London:

FT - AA Share 1099.84 (+6.84)

FT - SE 1211.05 (-7.54)

FT - Gilt Index 1547.5 (-0.7)

FT - Fixed Income 88.04 (-0.03)

FT Govt Secs 77.95 (-0.03)

Barcap 27925

SEAC Volume 479.5m

US (Datastream) 153.63 (-0.13)

Denotes latest trading price

WALL STREET

New York
BLUE chips were steady in mid-morning trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 12 points to 2,728.34.

Analysts said that shares were supported by a report that Iraq had given foreigners living in Kuwait and Iraq permission to leave.

Bargain-hunters contributed to the rebound, buying shares that had been battered recently. Richard Meyer,

(Reuter)

managing director of institutional trading Ladenburg Thalhaim and Co, said: "The crisis in the Middle East has not been averted yet and nothing has changed really."

• Frankfurt - The 30-share DAX index gained 29.37

points, or 1.69 per cent, to 1,770.30. The DAX has re-

couped about a third of Monday's losses when it stumped

5.4 per cent to 1,740.93.

Another 3% wiped from Tokyo prices



Under pressure: a Taipei floor-dealer yesterday

said: "Technically speaking, the market has hit bottom already. But Wall Street may continue to decline and nobody knows what will happen in the Middle East, so investors are afraid to take new positions."

By early afternoon, the Nikkei reached a new traded low before buying by arbitrageurs and cautious investors allowed the average to more than halve its losses of 1,300 points. Selling then resumed and it dropped to chart its

Record fall in Taiwan

Taipei STUNNED investors sent the Taiwan market's index tumbling by a record 6.79 per cent as steeper-than-expected falls in Tokyo and Hong Kong erased the last traces of optimism.

The weighted index fell 339.97 points to 4,668.24. There were almost no trades after the first 90 minutes as most issues fell by their 7 per cent daily limit, which was

reached by 100 shares. Analysts said the Gulf crisis was especially worrisome to Taiwan which depends on imports of oil to drive its exports. (Reuter)

Record fall in Taiwan

introduced in October, 1989 to put a brake on unsteady movements.

Only one issue rose and 204 fell, with 202 dropping the maximum allowed. Turnover slumped to (Taiwan) \$1.81 billion (£357 million) from (Taiwan) \$8.8 billion.

Analysts said the Gulf crisis was especially worrisome to Taiwan which depends on imports of oil to drive its exports. (Reuter)

Record fall in Taiwan

introduced in October, 1989 to put a brake on unsteady movements.

Only one issue rose and 204 fell, with 202 dropping the maximum allowed. Turnover slumped to (Taiwan) \$1.81 billion (£357 million) from (Taiwan) \$8.8 billion.

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Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this overall table and check this against the daily dividend figures. If it matches you have won outright a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

| No. | Company | Group | Gross or loss |
|-----|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Shire & Fisher | Building Roads | |
| 2 | AB Food (sa) | Foods | |
| 3 | Westpac | Banks, Discount | |
| 4 | Racial Elect (sa) | Electricals | |
| 5 | Frogmore | Property | |
| 6 | Racial Telecom (sa) | Electricals | |
| 7 | RMC Gp (sa) | Building, Roads | |
| 8 | Wilson Bowden | Building, Roads | |
| 9 | Beezer PLC (sa) | Building, Roads | |
| 10 | Taylor Woodrow (sa) | Building, Roads | |
| 11 | Bartsby (sa) | Building, Roads | |
| 12 | Tesco (sa) | Foods | |
| 13 | Nutri Foods (sa) | Foods | |
| 14 | ASDA Group (sa) | Foods | |
| 15 | Trafalgar H (sa) | Industrials S-Z | |
| 16 | De La Rue | Industrials A-D | |
| 17 | Evans Of Leeds | Property | |
| 18 | Greatall Wm | Breweries | |
| 19 | Sebco (sa) | Industrials S-Z | |
| 20 | McKeehan | Industrials I-R | |
| 21 | BPB Ind (sa) | Building, Roads | |
| 22 | Enterprise (sa) | Oil/Gas | |
| 23 | Tate & Lyle | Foods | |
| 24 | Dowty | Motors, Aircraft | |
| 25 | Assoc Fisheries | Foods | |
| 26 | Welsh Water | Water | |
| 27 | BET Ord (sa) | Industrials A-D | |
| 28 | GKN (sa) | Industrials S-Z | |
| 29 | Sinclair (Wm) | Industrials S-Z | |
| 30 | Kesey Ind | Industrials E-K | |
| 31 | Milledown (sa) | Foods | |
| 32 | Bromes | Drapery, Stores | |
| 33 | Bolton Gp | Textiles | |
| 34 | Etam | Drapery, Stores | |
| 35 | Hewitt (J) | Industrials E-K | |
| 36 | Reed Int (sa) | Newspapers, Pub. | |
| 37 | Ocean Group | Transport | |
| 38 | Caird Gp | | |
| 39 | IMI (sa) | Industrials E-K | |
| 40 | Mark Soccero (sa) | Drapery, Stores | |
| 41 | Rothschild (J) Hld | Banks, Discount | |
| 42 | Seven Trent | Water | |
| 43 | Christies Int | Industrials A-D | |
| 44 | Storhouse (sa) | Drapery, Stores | |
| 45 | Times Newspapers Ltd | Daily Total | |

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

| MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | SUN |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| £1,000 | £1,000 | £1,000 | £1,000 | £1,000 | £1,000 | £1,000 |

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

BRITISH FUNDS

| No. | Company | Group | Gross or loss |
|-----|----------|-------|---------------|
| 1 | Am Group | | |
| 2 | Am Fund | | |
| 3 | Am Fund | | |
| 4 | Am Fund | | |
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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

071-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

071-481 4481

Executive Reception

£13,000 - Chelsea

Style, elegance and panache are of primary importance to our image conscious client. They specialise in corporate identity, graphic and packaging design and boast graciously-beautiful designer offices in Chelsea. They urgently seek an immaculately-presented, socially-confident Receptionist to take a front-line and pivotal role within their organisation. Besides normal reception responsibilities you will be encouraged to demonstrate initiative and get involved in ad hoc admin projects. No typing needed. Effortless interpersonal skills and an approachable manner essential. Age 22-30. Telephone 071-493 5787.

GORDON YATES

Recruitment Consultants

Troubleshooting Administrator

£18,000 + car

Our client is a specialist when it comes to the restoration of period houses. Dynamic, entrepreneurial and enormously successful, they work on behalf of an influential and exclusive clientele. They now seek an exceptionally organised, level-headed, trouble-shooting Administrator to review office systems, oversee secretarial staff, handle volume contact with people from all walks of life etc. Computer literacy and proven experience of handling the financial management of a small company of paramount importance. Excellent interpersonal, prioritising and delegating skills requested. Age 25-40. Call 071-493 5787.

GORDON YATES

Recruitment Consultants

Problem-Solving Expertise

£15,000 + good bonus

Our client enjoys considerable standing as one of London's leading Management Consultancies. Assisting two senior Consultants, you'll enjoy a busy, involved role: fielding enquiries from a prestige clientele and senior level candidates; collating CVs; co-ordinating interview schedules etc. The ability to think on your feet and prioritise quickly and effectively essential. Excellent presentation and self-confidence taken as read. Ideally a Graduate, you are a confident communicator at home in a fast-paced, pressurised environment. Sound 50 wpm typing requested. Age 22+. Call 071-493 5787.

GORDON YATES

Recruitment Consultants

Secretary

in the Chairman and Chief Executive's offices of National Power

City

c.£14,174 - £16,890

Applications are invited for the appointment of a Secretary to work with the PA in the Chief Executive's Office and to assist in the Chairman's Office when necessary. This is an exciting and challenging post which would be ideal for a career-minded person looking for a stepping-stone to a high level secretarial appointment.

The post covers a wide range of secretarial and administrative activities and will be interesting and varied. It requires a person with initiative, tact and discretion, a pleasant telephone manner and an ability to deal with contacts at a very high level. You should have the stamina to cope with a demanding workload and the ability to remain calm and act with common sense in all manner of unforeseen circumstances. Candidates should be used to dealing with confidential material. Fast accurate typing and shorthand skills are essential, and a knowledge of a wordprocessing system (preferably Displaywrite 4 or Wordperfect) would be advantageous.

You will be expected to assist the PA with the smooth running of the Chief Executive's Office and to stand in for her during periods of annual leave. You will also be expected to handle incoming correspondence and enquiries for the Chairman's Office when the Chairman and his PA are working away from National Power.

Please send your CV to Miss Dorothy Bryan, Personnel Department, National Power plc, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU. Applications quoting Vacancy No. 6290/DBIT should arrive by 24 August 1990.

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, National Power welcomes applications from men and women, including ethnic minorities and the disabled.

No agencies please.



National Power

Training Officer

c£18,000

Our Client, a leading City firm of Solicitors, is looking to appoint a Training Officer to join its expanding Training and Development Department.

Reporting to the Training and Development Manager the main emphasis of this role is on the administration of all internal and external courses, including the firm's induction course. In addition the successful applicant must be willing to run in-house training sessions.

This is a high profile role within a firm with a widely recognised reputation for training, and would suit an ambitious and self-motivated person.

The successful applicant will have a sound knowledge of training administration, together with some knowledge of course design and presentation. Experience of working within a professional environment would be advantageous, as would keyboard skills and a knowledge of Lotus 123.

071-831 1220

RECRUITMENT COMPANY
5 GARRICK STREET WC2E 9AR

Secretarial Opportunity

COUNTRY LIFE

requires a

SECRETARY

for the Estates and Antiques Advertising Department. Shorthand and typing required and experience of word processing preferred although training will be given. Bright, cheerful and an excellent telephone manner are essential, and ability to work under pressure.

Apply with CV to:

David Asher, Estates and Antiques Advertising Manager, Country Life, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

ipcmagazines

KING & TOBIN

VENTURE CAPITAL

£14,500 + 5% Mortgage Subsidy
This is a major and rare opportunity for a bright 14 level professional and commercially sensitive to join this dynamic and highly regarded company in London. The post involves the management of a portfolio of property assets and other City based assets. Both short and long term lettings are available. The team is very successful and the package includes 14/20 towards your travel, free tickets and BUPA etc. Good training and advice is given for portfolio worth up to 25% of revenue. Details from King & Tobin Recruitment Consultants, 071-629 9848.

Please call King & Tobin Recruitment Consultants, 071-629 9848.

KING & TOBIN

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

166 Piccadilly, London W1V 9DF

In-House PR

£14,500

The Public Relations Manager of a high profile international company is looking for a secretary/assistant.

You will play a vital part in the company's PR programme. This will involve drafting for your boss, visiting the subsidiary companies in the UK on his behalf, co-ordinating and attending large functions from receptions to sponsorship launches.

Your sound secretarial skills are as important as are initiative, enthusiasm and a determination to succeed. This opportunity offers not only an excellent training but also 5 weeks holiday.

80 shorthand 60 typing

Medical Recs Cons 071-491 3848

Director's PA

£18,000

Complete professionalism, independence and a determined nature are the qualities required for this exciting new venture.

Working for the founding MD (and helping another director) of this thriving management consultancy with special interests in Eastern Europe, you could be organising a complicated itinerary one minute, contacting Warsaw another and trying to ship typewriter-parts to Budapest the next.

You will need to be highly organised and calm to deal with this frenetic job (only 30% typing). Shorthand useful, good typing.

Age: 26-32. Please call Lynne Dawson on 071-491 1868. La Creme Consultants.

La Creme

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

HORSTONES

KING & TOBIN

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

166 Piccadilly, London W1V 9DF

MASTERLOCK

RECRUITMENT

CONSULTANTS

Building a place in the sun

Your Mediterranean haven can become a reality provided you look out for the conmen, and bear in mind that Spanish workmen are not mindreaders

The tales of misfortune from people who have bought property in Spain could lead you to believe that an honest man is hard to find on the Costa del Sol. Certainly there is no shortage of vendors trying to make a quick peso out of the apparently unlimited number of would-be buyers from northern Europe; vendors who have given a new dimension to phrases such as "water nearby" and "electricity possible".

Seeking to avoid such people and the costly condominiums of Marbella and the timeshares along the coast, I searched for a property at the unfashionable end of the Costa del Sol, where it calls itself the Costa Tropical, beyond the town of Motril.

Nevertheless, I did run into problems, such as the builder who was not very organised and carried out his trade with only a shared moped for transport. I also incurred the wrath of a Spanish neighbour who made a *denuncia* against me, a very Spanish thing, the equivalent in law of a charge or accusation.

My quest for a home in the sun started in London with a modest redundancy cheque,

enough to buy a house in reasonable condition in the village of Guachos in the province of Granada, about eight miles inland from Motril, for £10,000.

That was in 1988, and though you can still find something for that price in the remote corners of Andalucia, it would probably cost as much again to put right – and will take much longer than you expect. The main lessons I learn seem obvious with hindsight, and demonstrate that the relationship between the buyer and the builder is not much different in southern Spain to anywhere else.

Building is not an exact science, and becomes less exact the older and more decrepit the building. Nor are builders mindreaders. They cannot do what you want unless you are there to explain things. Even an architect's drawings are no guarantee that things will turn out the way you expect.

In my case, I gave the builder a handful of drawings, very *mis a menos* (more or less), an approach calling for close supervision.

The project did not require a large building team, so I employed an amiable man



Room with a view: David Wilsorth surveys progress

called Federo, who employed his two sons as peons. The going rate for the three of them was £60 a day. Federo had been recommended by Miguel, for whom he had built a bar, a thing of ruggedness rather than beauty.

Then came a phenomenon I

think of as expatriates' collective anxiety, one form of sumo wre-

ters, he trying to get a cash advance out of me to start work, and me deeply suspicious of him. Quite suddenly I gave way and handed him a cheque. He rode off on his moped to cash it.

Rain stopped work on the first day, but after that it went with great rapidity, bellying another foreigners' view that all Spaniards are lazy.

The builders stopped work to watch, though they still had to be paid, when a neighbour staged a sit-in protest. Her name was Feliza, which means happiness, and she was the village pharmacist.

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My contention that this was common land was met with a *denuncia* for unspecified "damage". To my surprise, the matter reached court, only to be thrown out briskly by a magistrate who could find no evidence of damage.

The house was eventually finished to the point where I could take over, though not without more rows with Federo. We parted on good terms, however, and now greet each other like long lost brothers. And at least I did learn some of the phrases that help to get things done in Spain. *Mas a menos*.

DAVID WILSWORTH

£230,000 will buy you royal neighbours in Majorca

THE Bendinat estate on the south coast of Majorca, close to Palma, could easily bear a royal coat of arms rather than the pine tree and sea logo which is its trademark.

True, it is surrounded by pines, and is next to the sea, but the major shareholder in Urbanizadora Calvia SA, the company developing the 850-acre estate, is Prince Nawaf bin Abdul Aziz, brother of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, while the president of the Royal Bendinat Golf Club is King Juan Carlos, who has a little palace down the road.

Not surprisingly, therefore, it is rather special development – exclusive, unusual and expensive. The owners, many of whom are British, place a high value on its privacy and style.

The multi-phased scheme began with the Anchorage club and village on the sea's edge, designed by Francois Spoerry, who achieved fame with his marina village at Port Grimaud in the south of

which is to be extended to 18 holes within two years. The prices range from £57,000 to £177,000, and membership of the golf club is open only to residents of the estate.

The latest part of the development, the Anchorage Hill villas, promises to be spectacular, built on land sloping steeply down towards the sea with views over the Bay of Palma. More than £1 million has been spent on infrastructure for the 83 plots, many of which have been sold to local people. The 20 remaining plots cost an average of £100,000, and buyers, if they wish, can have a villa designed by the Majorcan architect Jose Riutort, in homely or palatial style. Prices start at £23,000.

A financial package offering mortgages at 9 per cent for the first two years of a two to ten-year period on 60 per cent of the property's value is available. For details, phone 071-589 4567.

CHRISTOPHER WARMAN

Estate fit for a king

France. The architecture is a blend of traditional Majorcan town house and Mediterranean Provencal style, with colour-washed facades, old roof tiles, balconies and shutters all blending to give the impression that it is a long-established village.

The village is virtually complete, the development is moving on with golf apartments and the Anchorage Hill villas. The new phase of the golf apartments includes 58 one, two and three-bedroom units, and indoor and outdoor swimming pools, overlooking the nine-hole golf course



Teeing off: the golf apartments and golf course form part of the Bendinat estate

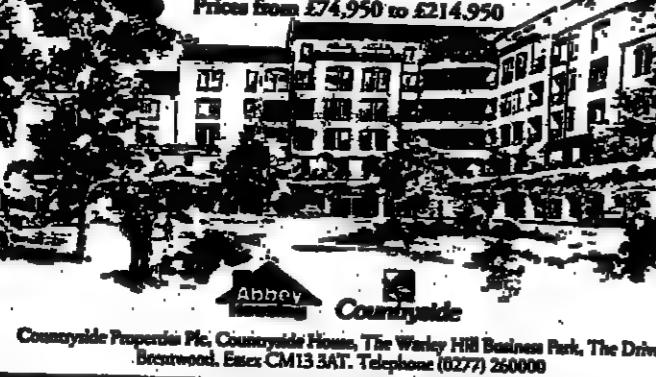
LONDON PROPERTY

As close to the heart of the City as the Tower of London

Studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments and two-bedroom maisonettes of the highest standards around a private garden square, each one with its own secure garage or parking space. Sales office and show apartments open daily between 10.30am and 5.30pm.

HOOPER SQUARE

HOOPER Street, London E1. For further information Tel 071-481 1612. Prices from £74,950 to £214,950.



Countryside Properties Ltd, Countryside House, The Walsley Hill Business Park, The Drive, Buntingford, Herts CM13 3AT. Telephone (0277) 260000

COUNTRY PROPERTY

Lane Fox

HAMPSHIRE/DORSET BORDERS

Salisbury 9 Miles Southampton 25 Miles A SOUTH FACING COUNTRY HOUSE WITH EXCELLENT PARKING ACCOMMODATION surrounded by unspoilt country.

2 reception rooms, study, large well planned kitchens with breakfasting areas, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, oil fired central heating.

Outbuildings including garage. Garden with hard tennis court, paddocks.

Plot 3.90 acres

Wimborne Office 0962 69999 & Bournemouth Office 0202 557766

BERKSHIRE

FRIMPTON: 6165,000. Charming 16th century terraced cottage in attractive village. Lot's of character and original features. In need of some order throughout. 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 reception room, kitchen, dining room, 1.5 acres. Plot 0.50. Tel 01256 803030.

BEDFORDSHIRE

BROWNSHILL: 3 bed semi-detached house in pretty village. 3 miles from Buntingford. Plot 0.15. Tel 01256 803030.

BUCKS

BUEDENHAM: 1 bed. Marlow. Charming Grade II listed semi-detached cottage, immediately behind the church. 2 reception rooms, kitchen, dining room, 1 bathroom, 1.5 acres. Plot 0.15. Tel 01628 649175.

DEVON: 16,000. Tiverton. Charming 2 bed cottage. Plot 0.15. Tel 01884 520010.

WYFORD: 20,000. Tiverton. Charming 2 bed cottage. Plot 0.15. Tel 01884 520010.

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Livingstone and Sesay lead a strong British squad at the world junior athletics championships

Gold medals no guarantee of achieving future glory

From a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN PLOVDIV, BULGARIA

WHEN the third International Amateur Athletic Federation world junior championships begin here this morning, those seeking the senior champions of the future will be looking beyond the gold medal-winnings alone.

In Athens four years ago, Peter Rono, of Kenya, and Brahim Boutayeb, of Morocco, finished second and fourth in the 1,500 metres and 3,000 metres respectively; two years later, they were crowned Olympic champions in Seoul.

At the last championships, in Sudbury in 1988, Steve Backley could finish only second in the javelin, an event he has gone on to dominate in the following two years, winning World Cup and Commonwealth titles and setting two world records.

Inevitably, gold medal-winners from the first two championships have gone on to translate junior promise into senior success, among them Colin Jackson, the winner of the 110 metres hurdles in Athens who has since won medals at the world championships and the Olympic and Commonwealth Games.

The standard is expected to be equally high this year, although Grit Breuer, the exciting East German sprint prospect who heads the European senior women's 200 metre rankings this summer, has withdrawn to concentrate on the European championships in Split at the end of this month.

Britain has sent one of its strongest teams for a junior championship, and it could surpass its record haul of eight medals, including three golds, in the inaugural event.

The best hopes of success lie with David Bigham in the decathlon and Mark Sesay and Andrew Lill in the 800 metres, an event that has been Britain's best at these championships in the past, with a gold for David Sharpe in 1986 and a silver for Kevin McKay two years ago.

The height of Johnson's ambitions

SESTRIERE, Italy (Reuter) — Michael Johnson, the sprinter, has his sights set on the world's oldest track record today when he runs over 200 metres at an international meeting here.

The mark of 19.72sec, the only world record held by an Italian, was set by Pietro Mennea in the high altitude of Mexico City 11 years ago.

Johnson, from the United States, will also have the advantage of altitude at this alpine skiing resort set 2,000 metres above sea level.

"It's a great time but it's been standing for a long while now and there are a lot better athletes coming on," Johnson said earlier this year. "I'm not concentrating on trying to break it but I definitely feel I'm capable of it."

West German photograph is IOC winner

THE second Best of Sport photographic contest, organised by the International Olympic Committee and judged in Verbier, Switzerland, drew an entry of more than 300 pictures in three categories.

Simon Brut, of Allsport, the British based agency, took first prize in the colour section with a photograph of West Germany's triumphant moment in the World Cup final. Pascal Rondeau, also of Allsport, was second with Gerard Vandystadt, of Agence Vandystadt, France, third. The winner of the black and white category was Bernhard Kunz, of the West German agency, Fotogenartur Hartung, with a study of a cycling final.

David Lill, of "The Independent", was second and Ferenc Nemeth, of the Hungarian News Agency, third.

Ashdown also won the portfolio section, introduced for the first time this year. The winners in each category receive \$4,000 (approximately £2,650).

Hallam hauls in five medals

By JANE WYATT

BRITAIN, with a total of 63 medals, finished a disappointing, if predictable, third in this year's World Wheelchair Games at Stoke Mandeville behind Australia and the United States. The result was disappointing because last year, the home country headed the unofficial medals table, but predictable because so many of the top athletes were newly returned from the world championships in Assen, did not compete.

One exception was the Welsh track athlete, Chris Hallam, who took gold in the 100 metres, 200 metres and 800 metres, as well as winning a silver medal and a bronze.

Kevan Baker, from Leeds, was the only Briton to break a world record at the Games, with a throw of 32.65m in the discus. The swimmer, George Wymess, secured first places in the 50 metres and 100 metres freestyle.

Hallam did not enter the open marathon, leaving the way clear for his long-time rival, David Holding, to take first place in a

spectacular finish. Holding snatched victory by two seconds with a time of 1hr 51min 37sec. The first four places were separated by a total of only six seconds. The result will be a great boost for Holding, who is temporarily suspending his racing to undergo major surgery.

The comparative lack of experienced internationals left the way clear for some new talent to shine. The young Welsh student, Tanni Grey, continued the tremendous success she demonstrated at the national games in June, winning silver medals in the 800 metres and 100 metres track events. The high point of her achievement, however, was to win the women's open marathon, beating the powerful Dane, Ingrid Laursen, with a time of 2hr 20min 25sec.

Another promising newcomer was Rose Hill, who took third place in the marathon and second in the 5,000 metres. Her first big race had been this year's London Marathon. Until then, she was virtually unknown, training in an ordinary chair around Wilton Lake in Milton Keynes.

Although she now has a proper racing chair for competitions, she uses the old machine to build strength in training, and has already broken the record.

The team manager, Roger Ellis, who was born in 1971, won a bronze medal in the discus in his first international competition.

Ellis sees him as a definite future champion.

This weekend, eight of England's top able-bodied table tennis players will be competing in an invitation event at the BSAD/Grand Metropolitan Championships at the Riverhead Leisure Centre in Reading. More than a hundred players from all the disability groups will be competing together under a classification system based on "functional ability" rather than type of disability.

Whether he will remain over the next few months is a fascinating question, particularly as Chen Xinhua, the former World Cup-winner living in Rotherham, is eligible for selection for England's world championship team.

Two of the four scheduled races have been cancelled because of high winds and snow. Because of airline bookings out of New Zealand, Friday was not considered a possibility for racing, until the event organiser, Neil Harrison, started trying yesterday to arrange alternative transport.

In special circumstances, international rules permit one late selection for the track and road teams and that appears to be McHugh's only hope.

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championships and was prepared to pay his own expenses to Japan.

"It will cost me in the region of £2,500 but how else can I get recognition at international level?" he said. "This is my living. I am the only professional sprinter in Britain. What's going on?"

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Hectic run chase proves fruitless as Yorkshire gain an honourable draw in Roses cricket match

Lloyd's heroic effort for Lancashire goes unrewarded

By RICHARD STRETON

HEADINGLEY (final day of three): Yorkshire (5pts) drew with Lancashire (8)

IN AN extraordinary finish Lancashire failed by 15 runs yesterday to thrash their way to a target of 148 in 13 overs. Graham Lloyd hit 70 from 38 balls to keep the match alive until the final over before he was caught at long-on.

Jarvis and Fletcher bowled unchanged, with everybody bar the wicketkeeper on the boundary edges, through the final helter-skelter run-chase. Lancashire were never quite able to maintain the necessary momentum.

Lloyd pulled and drove with desperate urgency as he hit two sixes from each bowler as he and Atherton added 74 in six overs. When Jarvis began the last over, 19 were wanted. Lloyd was out to the second ball and Lancashire gave up when DeFreitas was bowled with two balls left.

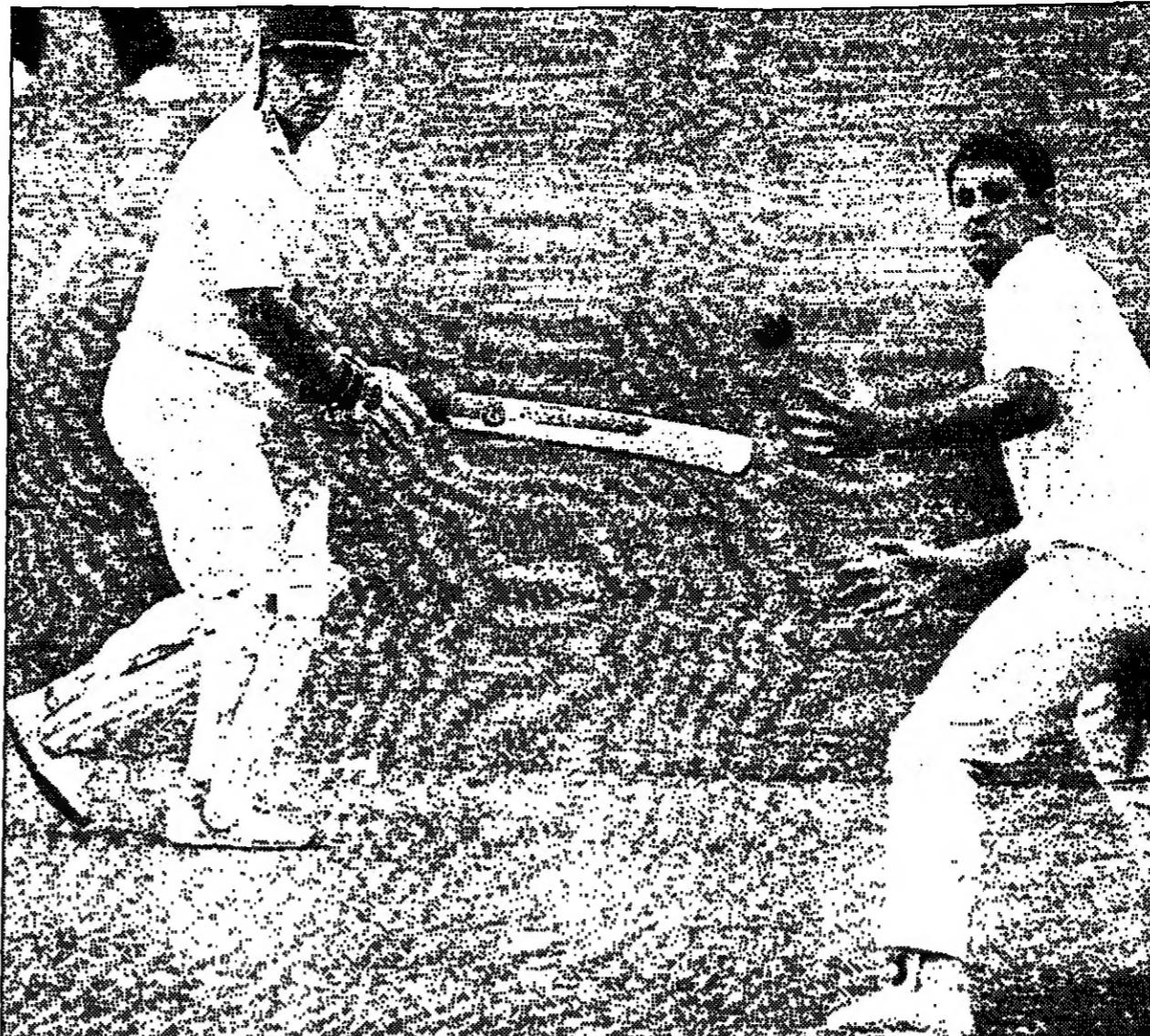
DeFreitas had come in with a runner because of the bruised foot that prevented him bowling more than two overs earlier and forced him to

withdraw from the England Test party. Lancashire's attack earlier was handicapped, therefore, but nothing could detract from a masterful innings of 146 by Ashley Metcalfe as he led a stirring rearguard action by Yorkshire that lasted most of the day.

With Lancashire within striking range of the championship, they were bound to attempt the almost hopeless assault on the target finally left them, which required an average runrate of more than 11 an over. Four wickets quickly fell for 55 inside six overs as the batsmen threw their bats at everything before Lloyd and Atherton joined in the stand that was to take their team to victory.

Lancashire needed 84 from six overs and this shrank dramatically when Fletcher conceded 20 in his fourth over. The target was still 38 from three overs and 27 from two. Atherton was finally stumped from the last ball of the penultimate over. By lunchtime the odds looked stacked in favour of an early

An enthralling day's cricket began with Yorkshire, with all wickets intact, still requiring 91 to avoid an innings defeat. By lunchtime the odds looked stacked in favour of an early



One that got away: Keith Brown, of Middlesex, watches the ball fly past him at Lord's yesterday after a shot by Tony Cottee, the Glamorgan batsman, who made 33, escapes the grasp of the silly point fielder. Report, page 38

Veteran teenagers give Indians edge

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE generation gap that separates England from other Test-playing countries is demonstrated today when Lord's stages the first international match of a tour by the Pakistan Under-19 side.

Pakistan could, had they wished, have included their Test new-ball bowler, Wagan Younis. Now with Surrey, Younis is not 19 until November. India's equivalent side could include the Test batsman, Sachin Tendulkar, England, however, will today field a team that does not include a single established county player.

The England side is captained by the wicketkeeper, Wayne Nixon, who has to make do with being David Ripley's understudy at Northamptonshire. Others with senior county experience include Darren Gough, of Yorkshire, and Jeremy Hallett, of Somerset, both seam bowlers, but overall it is a starkly inexperienced side.

Part of the brief of the England committee, when it was

formed last year, was to achieve more continuity through the age groups in the hope that players will mature earlier than is the Indian tradition.

Series such as this, sponsored by Bull, can only be of benefit and Ted Dexter and Micky Stewart, the England chairman and manager respectively, will be closely monitoring the progress of Nixon and his players over the coming schedule, which includes three four-day matches later in the month.

The England committee hoped to name an under-23 side yesterday for the three-day fixture next week against the Indians at Edgbaston but the announcement has been delayed by problems of injury and unavailability.

Mike Atherton was the natural captain for such a side but he is committed to the NatWest Trophy semi-finals, which also claim prime candidates such as Hegg, Ramprakash, Roseberry, Tufnell, Asling and Robinson, of Northamptonshire.

In Lenham's footsteps

SCHOOLS CRICKET by GEORGE CHESTERTON

CHRISTOPHER Gates, of Brighton, has joined the select number of those who have exceeded 1,000 runs in the season. His aggregate of 1,378 leaves him second only to another Brightonian, Neil Lenham, now a regular member of the Sussex side, who made over 1,500 runs in 1984.

Gregor Kenna of Tiffin also achieved four figures, reaching his goal in the last match of the season. He is the first to do so at Tiffin since 1962. J. R. A. Williams, of Clifton, was not a long

way short with 935, and Michael Ward, of Manchester Grammar School, had over 900 runs to his credit.

He is another in the same mould as Michael Atherton and Mark Crowley, who both made over 1,000 runs in their last seasons at the school.

Chris Tavaré, when at Sevenoaks in 1973, made 1,036 in only 14 innings and two years ago, J. W. S. Porter, of Damsey's, reached a total of 1,104 from only 13 visits to the wicket.

Desmond Haynes is hoping to

England weaken Middlesex

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

MIDDLESEX are the harder hit by the demands of England for today's game at Bournemouth against Hampshire, which could have a crucial bearing on the outcome of the race for the county championship.

Hughes had already been named as the replacement for Angus Fraser in the side when Williams was called into the England party, leaving the championship leaders short of an experienced player in an important department.

Desmond Haynes is hoping to

play despite a knee injury that kept him off the field yesterday, but Carr and Butcher are available.

Hampshire can replace Robin Smith with his brother, Chris, rested for the two-day win over Northamptonshire, and either Cox or Scott will come in for

Worcestershire, who will be without their captain Neale for two weeks while he recovers from an operation on a thigh injury, will be led by Curtis against Lancashire at Kidderminster. Botham will have a late

fitness test on a thigh injury.

In addition to Hemmings, Northamptonshire are likely to be without Pollard, Randall and Pick for the game with Somerset at Weston-super-Mare. And Martindale and Kevin Saxby come in.

Foster may captain Essex for the first time in the game against Glamorgan at Southend because Gooch is otherwise engaged. Pringle is doubtful with a back injury and Hardie, the third-choice captain will be playing for the second XI at Derby. Essex bring in Shadid and Andrew.

Graham Gooch brought his season's aggregate to 1,956 with

success in the first two days of the draw at 327 for eight.

There was a remarkable finish

at Grace Road, where

Worcestershire beat Leicestershire by one run

in the final ball of the game.

Leicestershire, who needed

only 22 to win, were taken into

the final ball with a stubborn

defiance.

John Illingworth, aged 31, who has been appointed as the club's youth development officer in succession to Ray East.

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McLaughlin ready to leave relegated Charlton Athletic

By LOUISE TAYLOR

JOE McLaughlin yesterday appeared to be on the point of becoming the third player to leave Charlton Athletic since the south London club was relegated from the first division in May. A central defender, McLaughlin is expected to sign for Watford, managed by Colin Lee, his former Chelsea colleague, for £50,000.

John Keeley, the Brighton goalkeeper, looks ready to join Oldham Athletic for £250,000. If Keeley leaves the Goldstone Ground, he will be the fourth first-team regular to do so this summer, but Barry Lloyd, the manager who has not paid for a player for two years, has yet to strengthen his squad.

Oldham Athletic yesterday completed the signing of Curtis Fleming, a full back from St

Patrick's Athletic, the League of Ireland club, in a £110,000 transfer. Fleming is intended to replace Dennis Irwin, the highly-regarded right back, who has left Oldham to join Manchester United.

Middlesbrough have rejected a transfer request from Bernie Slaven, the Republic of Ireland international forward. Aged 29, Slaven scored 32 goals last season, and Colin Todd, the Middlesbrough manager, said: "Slaven is tied to us for the next two years, and we hope to reach agreement on a new contract before the start of the season."

Terry Connor left Portsmouth for Swansea City, with the transfer fee for the forward to be determined by a tribunal.

Jimmy Mullen, who was

dismissed as the manager of Blackpool in April, has joined Burnley as assistant manager to Frank Casper. He succeeds Mick Docherty, who has left Turf Moor in order to become chief coach at Hull City.

Gillingham have released Tony Potts, their central defender, to rejoin Bournemouth, his former club, as player-coach.

José Perdomo, a Uruguayan international midfield player, yesterday joined Coventry on a month's trial. He will train alongside Zoltan Csucsanay, a Hungarian who is in the same position at Highfield Road.

Both are expected to feature in the Coventry side to face Banik Ostrava, of Czechoslovakia, in a match at Highfield Road on Friday. Nigel Callaghan is expected to leave Aston Villa after Josef Venglos, the new manager, who was formerly in charge of Banik Ostrava, indicated he does not feature in his plans at Villa Park.

Luton Town have abandoned plans to sign Shalom Televa, an Israeli international midfield player, because they believe the £650,000 transfer fee demanded by Standard Liège of Belgium, his present club, is too high.

Kevin Moran, who played for the Republic of Ireland in the World Cup finals in the summer, is expected to announce his retirement from international football in the near future.

Robson confident of starting on time

By IAN ROSS

BRYAN Robson, the captain of Manchester United and England, is confident that he will be fit before the start of the season.

Robson underwent an operation on a damaged Achilles tendon last month after being forced to withdraw from the World Cup finals in Italy. It was feared that more surgery might have been required after his recovery programme suffered a setback.

"Another operation is very unlikely," Robson said yesterday. "I have seen a specialist in London and he had told me

that I do have some inflammation at the bottom of my heel. He had put me on a course of tablets which, along with some exercises, should put things right.

Robson's younger brother, Gary, will certainly miss the start of the season with West Bromwich Albion despite recovering from a broken leg to play in the first game of the club's tour of Ireland.

Gary, aged 24, is suffering with an ankle injury that has troubled him since he was a teenager.

RUGBY UNION

Cramb fills Hastings's job

By DAVID HANNS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

RICHARD Cramb will lead London Scottish when the season begins next month (David Hancocks). Cramb stepped four times by Scotland at a stand-off half-toss over the captaincy from Gavin Hastings, whose firm has moved him to Glasgow.

Scotish, runaway winners of the Courage Clubs Championship third division last season, had hoped that Hastings, who would remain available until Christmas. But the Scotland and

British Lions full back, now aged 23 and with 28 caps to his credit, returns to Scotland this month and will rejoin Scott's brother, at Watsonians.

Cramb, who joined Scottish from Harrow last season ago, expects to be able to field two newcomers in his back division, Mark Appleton, a talented goalkicker from West London Institute who will press for the vacancy left by Hastings. Brian Sheldrake, business associate, Paul Gleeson, said: "I honestly don't know anything about it. It's nonsense."

BRIDGE

Damiani's bid to be countered

By ALBERT DORMER

THE American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) seems likely to oppose Europe's candidate when the World Bridge Federation (WBF) holds its presidential election in Geneva three days before the world championships begin later this month.

Jason Damiani, the president of the European Bridge League (EBL), is challenging the reigning WBF president, Dennis Howard, a Sydney lawyer. But the EBL has only four votes, even though it has half the world's players. The ACBL also has four votes, and the remaining five votes are held by the Americas.

Insiders say the American delegation will support Howard, who can also count on votes from Panama, Hong Kong and New Zealand. Howard has proved himself a capable president, and differences in policy are few, but the Damiani camp holds that his proven track record in France and Europe fits him for a wider role.

The election could end a long-standing consensus that has contributed much to the WBF's growth. Previous elections, always held in Geneva, have thrown up such controversial figures as Jaime Ortiz-Patino, the head of the Patino worldwide interests, who served for ten years.

Away from the in-fighting, Britain has been preparing three Open squads to challenge the US in the world knockout teams.

"We regard Martel, Sunbury, Hammon and Wolff as a formidable quartet," Andrew Robson, at 26 by the youngest member of Britain's representative teams, said. "They are four of the world's greatest players and, together with Cayne and Burger, they come fresh from winning the Springfield Trophy in Boston. They are certainly not a team one would care to meet early in the competition." The US has entered 18 more teams, including the holders.

Britain faces record fields and stronger opposition than ever before, but are hoping to draw strength from a secret weapon. In an imaginative move, the British Bridge League (BBL) set up training schedules for the Open, which included not only practice sessions, seminars and study groups, but also the services of a sports psychologist.

"In such a stressful championship, the improvement in inter-partnership and inter-team relationships could be very important," Barry Rigel said. "The Geneva series will be not only the biggest ever held but also the longest."

THE CHAMPIONSHIP Field last 1. Sally Hobson, 2. Edge, B. Rigel, P. Cayne, 3. V. Silcock, 1. R. Crouse, J. Johnson, 3. T. Forrester, A. Potson, A. Souter, R. Beale, L. Stag, C. Callaghan, R. Cullen, J. Bennett, L. Stag.

WATER SKIING

Records put Seels on course for title

By JANE ELLIOTT

LEICESTER. Scottish play their first league match against Blackheath on September 22.

• AUCKLAND, New Zealand: Radio New Zealand said yesterday that Wayne Shielford, the former New Zealand captain, who was dropped by the All Blacks last month, had signed a contract to coach teams for Toyota in Japan (AFP reports).

Shielford's business associate, Paul Gleeson, said: "I

honestly don't know anything about it. It's nonsense."

Jason Seels, from Farnham, achieved far more than merely retaining his British Dauphin overall title in the national youth championships at Tallington, Lincolnshire. In

dominating a competition featuring the cream of the country's young water skiers, he achieved national age group records in three disciplines—the slalom, tricks and jumping.

The slalom record fell first, as Seels rounded 3½ buoys on a 13 metre rope. While the next tricks record holder, Julian Heaney, aged 14, had impressed in the second discipline, scoring 3,910 points, Seels emerged to surpass both Heaney's score and the national Dauphin tricks record with 5,080 points.

Seels then matched the national jumping record of 30 feet on a 13 metre rope. While the next tricks record holder, Julian Heaney, aged 14, had impressed in the second discipline, scoring 3,910 points, Seels emerged to surpass both Heaney's score and the national Dauphin tricks record with 5,080 points.

Seels' off-water training schedule included running, swimming, cycling and time in the sun. Some of his summer holidays are spent by Seels in Kirtions Farm by British team member and champion, John Battleday.

However, the road to success in water skiing is a long and arduous one and the efforts of the organisers at Tallington to raise sponsorship for the national youth championships bear witness to the sad fact that there is no money at this level of the sport.

Seels is talented, competitive and, like many young athletes, motivated and managed by parental dedication. Over the last five years, water skiing has become a way of life for him. Every day, he is picked up from Neville Lovett school in

WATER SKIING

Summit of the season

From a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN VERBIER, SWITZERLAND

en's favourite. Foremost in the competitors' minds will be the open distance task, because the advances in paragliding technology have allowed pilots to fly higher, faster and further than ever before.

The leading paraglider manufacturers of the world, from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, England and Japan, will be demonstrating their latest prototypes. Much attention will be focused on the Bavarian manufacturer, Firebird. Under two weeks ago, one of its young test pilots, Dominik Müller, crossed the Alps from Germany to Italy in less than five hours, breaking the European distance record with ease and at 107km nearing the world record of 127km set in the Namib desert earlier this year.

In such a stressful championship, the improvement in inter-partnership and inter-team relationships could be very important," Barry Rigel said. "The Geneva series will be not only the biggest ever held but also the longest."

THE CHAMPIONSHIP Field last 1. Carlo Della Rosa, from Italy, heads the men's field and Lucy MacSwiney, the world champion, who leads a seven-strong British contingent, is the wom-

Teenager overcomes glandular fever and poor early form to move into lead

JOHN CHAPPLER



Grim determination: Alison Johns tees off at Saunton yesterday

Britons squelch under qualifying score

From PATRICIA DAVIES

IN NEW JERSEY

JULIE Hall, the British title-holder, and Linda Fletcher, runner-up in the English championship, made sure of the top 64 in the 90th US Women's Amateur Championship at Canoe Brook, in Summit, New Jersey, and qualifying for today's matchplay stages with a total of 153, nine over par.

Hall added a 75 to her opening 78, while Fletcher, the other 18-year-old among the British contingent, played her

second nine in level par for a 76. The early front-runner for leading qualifier was Vicki Goetze, the defending champion, with rounds of 70 and 74.

Hall got up at 5.30am for her early start, only to arrive at the 10th fairway and find her ball in the water. "I had to walk back and had to wait until the next fairway," she said. "It was not what the already saturated course needed and a canoe would have been a useful item of equipment. Of course, busy with water related rulings, could have done with amphibious vehicles instead of buggies."

"The ninth fairway was bad,"

said Hall, "but the tenth was horrendous and part of the sixth fairway was like a water bed."

Despite the conditions, it was still best to keep the ball on the fairways and Hall, who reckoned she had only three in the first round, improved to the extent that she was in joint 14th at the 14th, a par three of 146 yards, for a birdie two. She had another bogey at the 16th, where she hit what she called "a toed five-iron" off the tee, short of the green and took three putts.

Thomson moved Hall a little

closer to the ball and stopped her hitting from the top, so she is still in with a chance of becoming the first player to win the US and British titles since Catherine Lacoste of France, in 1967.

Out in 38, two over par, Hall dropped a shot at the long 11th but hit a superb six-iron to 12 inches at the 14th, a par three of 146 yards, for a birdie two. She had another bogey at the 16th, where she hit what she called "a toed five-iron" off the tee, short of the green and took three putts.

She did have the disadvantage

Speak may have difficulties after qualifying

By JOHN HENNESSY

KIRSTY Speak, aged 19, from Clitheroe, shook off the lingering effect of glandular fever to take the lead in the English women's strokeplay championship, sponsored by National Westminster Bank, yesterday. With a round of 74, level par for Saunton's west course (6,174 yards), she is one stroke ahead of Sarah Bennett, of Colchester, Susan Pickles, of Leigh-on-Sea, and Katie Tebbit, of East Devon.

Speak, a student at Loughborough University, survived yesterday's round well enough, but two rounds tomorrow, for which she will surely qualify, might be an ordeal for all her sturdiness of frame.

A position of such prominence hardly seemed likely when she opened with a five and six to drop two shots. Her nine-iron kicked away from the first green and her wedge found a bunker at the long second. Three birdies quickly followed, whereupon a sixth at the ninth took her to three over, she needed three to get on and three more

to go out for her hole-in-one.

Speak came home well with three birdies and a dropped shot at only the 13th, a graveyard for so many players with the wind in yesterday's quarter, since they were hitting long irons to a green

falling away on all sides. It was that bad one player took up her card, still above ground having taken seven. Yet Saunton's 13th is a par three, only 130 yards from the women's tees.

Bennett, chased by Beverley Lewis, until recently a stalwart of the European Tour, was picking up where she left off on Sunday. A superb round of 72 then at Woburn had put her in the prize for the low amateur in the British Women's Open.

Among her four birdies yesterday was a rare one at that infamous 13th, where her four-iron came obediently round from the left and she holed from 20 feet.

Pickles, a familiar figure of the early 1960s under her maiden name, McLaren Smith, is a prep school teacher at Titchfield, where she has 60 children under golf tuition. She leads the English women's team and was level par at the 13th. Three birdies quickly followed, whereupon a sixth at the ninth took her to three over, she needed three to get on and three more

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Leanne, 1

SPORT

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 8 1990

MARK PEPPER

Botham signals the end of his England career

By ALAN LEE CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

IAN Botham has tacitly admitted that his England career is over by failing to confirm his availability for this winter's tour of Australia.

I understand that the England committee, under Ted Dexter, has received written acceptances from 42 of the 43 players included on a provisional shortlist for the tour, and that Botham is the one who did not meet the deadline of August 3.

The tour letters emphasised that anyone failing to reply by that date would be considered unavailable and, once it has been established that the blame does not lie with the Post Office, Botham will find that the rules will not be bent for him.

This time last year, confusion cloaked his intentions for

the winter. He had ignored England's availability letter regarding the West Indies tour, and was being actively courted by the organisers of the unsanctioned series in South Africa.

Botham did not initially rule out the South African option, but when he was asked, during the Trent Bridge Test against Australia, to clarify his position, he told the England manager, Micky Stewart, that he would, after all, go to the West Indies. It did not seem to occur to him that he might not be chosen.

When he was subsequently omitted from the tour party, Botham resentfully claimed that he had been "persuaded" to make himself available.

Egotistical though this may have been, his outrage left an unpalatable taste.

The upshot of the affair will be that England officials will simply delete Botham's name from the tour possible, giving him no opportunity to feel that any persuasion was applied.

In truth, he was unlikely to have been chosen anyway, but now there can be no way back for him. Botham's dramatic Test career, involving 97 matches, 5,119 runs and 376 wickets, will be seen to have come to an end in that Trent Bridge match last summer, when he scored 120 and took no wicket for 103 before injury forced his withdrawal from a crushing innings defeat.

Since then, hopes of a Botham revival have been sustained largely by general nostalgia and tabloid imagination. He did make one brilliant century against Gloucestershire in the Benson and Hedges Cup and was a bunting in vain as Worcestershire went out of the NatWest Trophy at Northampton last week.

But his batting has not been consistent and his bowling, after an early flirtation with the dancing run-up and penetrative swing of old, has reverted to trundling type as a series of injuries have beset him.

The England committee was aware of his commitment to a charity walk, clashing with the start of the Australian tour. It would even have been prepared to reach an accommodating arrangement, providing Botham's form warranted it and he was willing to jettison other projected engagements, such as a speaking tour and a pantomime part. Sadly, however, his failure to observe a sensible formality will now inevitably be taken as a farewell to the stage he graced for so long.

● Eddie Hemmings expects to be fit for the second Test despite leaving the field with cramp in his right thigh before the end of Nottinghamshire's match against Essex at Southend yesterday.

Williams called in for DeFreitas

By ALAN LEE

FREEDOM from the injuries that plagued the side last summer has been influential in England's Test match resurgence this year, and even when their luck turned yesterday the blow was not damaging.

Philip DeFreitas's withdrawal from the 12 for the second Test with India at Old Trafford starting tomorrow, probably has a direct bearing only on who will carry the drinks. Neil Williams, of Middlesex, so far uncapped, has been called into the party but seems unlikely to play.

DeFreitas had been suffering with a toe injury for some days and knew, after bowling two overs in the Roses match yesterday morning, that it had not recovered sufficiently. Following their recent trend, the selectors' answer was to

replace one West Indian-born bowler with another. If he should play, Williams will become the fifth seam bowler from the Caribbean to represent England this summer.

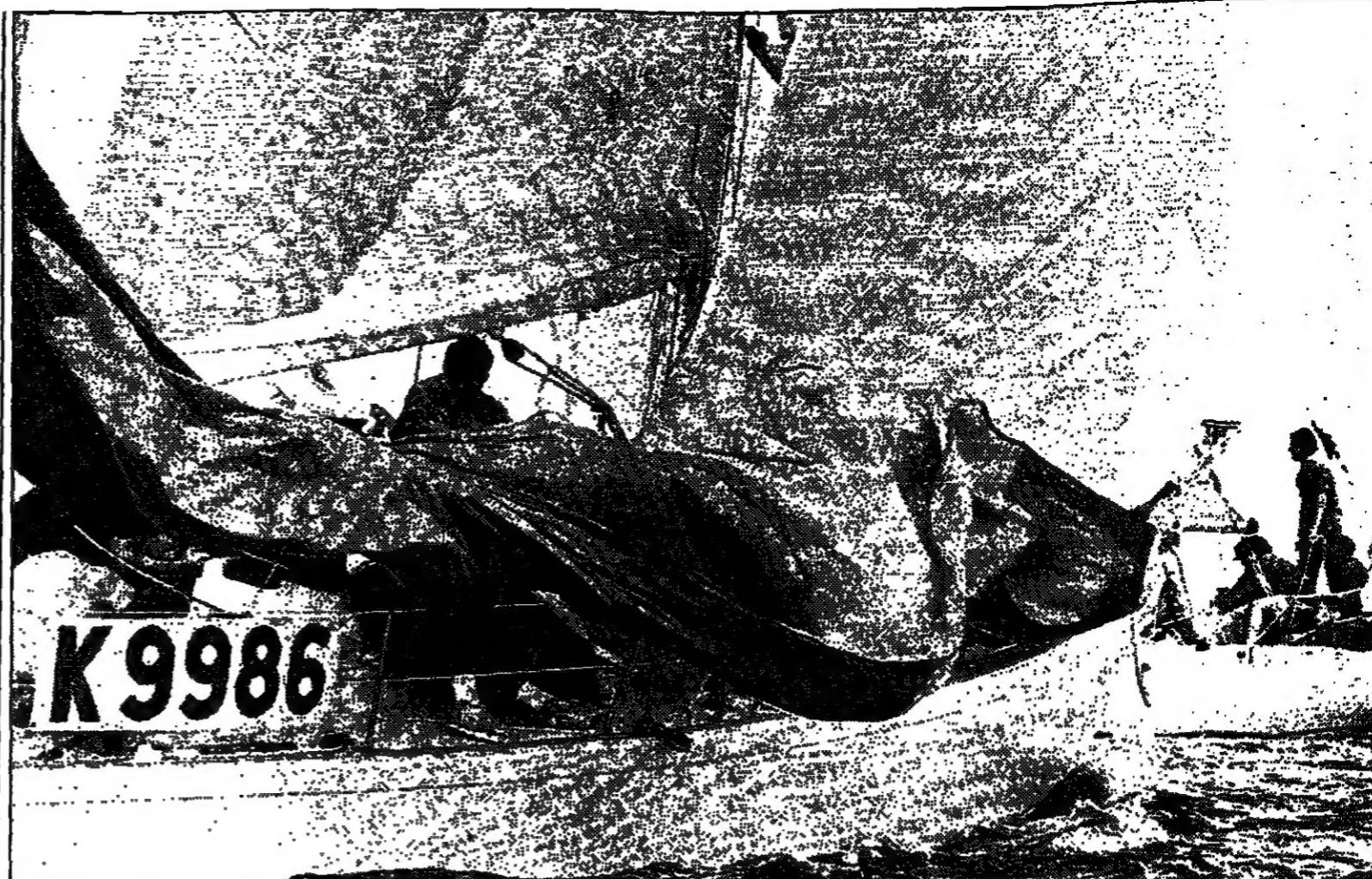
Already 28 years old and in his ninth season with Middlesex, Williams is a typical West Indian bowler. Unless England's predilection for six specialist batsmen is abandoned, however, his call-up will affect no one more than his county colleagues, who today begin a crucial championship match against Hampshire at Bournemouth.

Victory went, instead, to Malcolm Strang's Impudence, which was 34sec ahead of the RAF's entry, Red Arrow, steered by Tim Law. His brother, the former Olympic

Prince Philip, back aboard Owen Aisher's Yeoman XXVIII, with King Constantine of Greece, ended the day in seventh place, 18sec and two places ahead of Paul Gaillard's Scorpio, which had the Princess perched on the rail.

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brother, the former Olympic



Far from plain sailing: the crew on board J-Hawk have their hands full on their way to winning the De Mass Cup at Cowes yesterday

Light winds present new set of problems

By BARRY PICKTHALL

LIGHTER winds and a fierce tidal stream during the afternoon presented the 800 yacht crews competing yesterday at Cowes with a completely different set of problems to Monday's gusts, which had brought downing and sinkings.

After their family "battle" in racing class keelboats on Monday, Prince Philip and the Princess Royal were in opposing Sigma 38 one-design cruisers yesterday.

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Victory went, instead, to Malcolm Strang's Impudence, which was 34sec ahead of the RAF's entry, Red Arrow, steered by Tim Law. His

brother, the former Olympic yachtsman, Chris Law, had a less successful time. Steering David Head's Beneteau 31 Aiden, of Brighton, he was judged to be over the line at the start and had a wasted day leading the class 1 fleet around the Solent. The winning gun went to Jean Pierre Dick's French one-tonner, Centaur, 7sec ahead of Monday's winner Jockey Club, skippered by David Bishop.

J-Hawk, Stuart Johnstone's new J-44 class yacht was the runaway winner in the hotly-contested final.

With Peter Bateman again calling the time, the American design finished the day 12min ahead of Richard Mathew's 12 metre Crusader on corrected time. There was a

separate struggle between the four Beneteau 455 yachts, but after a great deal of place trading, honours here finally went to Harry Dodd's Devil II (B Baird) followed by Candida (P Andrea) in third.

In the Sigma 33 class, Ian Macdonald-Smith threw away a promising start aboard Monday's winner, Happy Apple, after being caught bulking a right of way yacht, which left the course clear for Ken Trench's equally-successful Chaser to take line honours, ahead of Firestorm, skippered by John Perry.

The most successful skipper so far during this Land Rover

sponsored week, however, is Noel Dobbs, who steered his Mermaid keelboat to victory for the fourth day in succession. The man challenging him for the overall title at the end of the week is Vernon Stratton, Britain's former Olympic team manager, who gained his third victory.

Cowes Notebook, page 34

RESULTS FROM COWES

P (Overall) Eldest, Chichester Cup 1; Full (S Fair); 2, Trojan II (B Baird); 3, Candide (P Andrea) and P Shankland; 4, Mermaid (N Dobbs); 5, Zingara (A Perry); 6, Zingara (N Galloway); 7, Miss N Stier.

P (Overall) Eldest, Chichester Cup 1; Full (S Fair); 2, Firecorn (J Perry); 3, Duscan (A Glover); Comtesse 32, Petalock Trophy; 4, Wright Rubber (P Railey); 2, Aiden (D Head); 3, Moonstone II (J Murney); 5, Goliath (N Galloway); 6, Miss N Stier.

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